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MODERN IRISH GRAMMAR

C. H. H. WRIGHT.

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A GRAMMAR

OF THE

MODERN IRISH LANGUAGE,

DESIGNED CHIEFLY FOR

THE USE OF THE CLASSES IN THE UNIVERSITY.

BY

CHARLES H. H. WRIGHT,

OF TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

With a Preface

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PREFACE.

I FEEL much pleasure in recommending this analysis of Irish Grammar to the Irish classes in the University, and to the public. It was undertaken most kindly by Mr. Wright, at my request, and I am happy to testify that he has admirably executed his undertaking. It is, indeed, *multum in parvo.*

To students of the Irish language in the University, especially to those previously unacquainted with the language, it is a great boon. It will conduct them to the knowledge of the language which the people speak and understand; and they will find it accurate, short, simple, and cheap. I will add, that in no Irish Grammar hitherto published do we find, in my judgment, these qualities combined.

One of the slowest means a learner can take of acquiring a language of which he knows little or nothing before, is to select a large grammar, and thus puzzle himself with intricacies and the investigations of philologists before he understands the first principles. The present grammar has removed this *difficulty, and* the consequent discouragement; and

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and Englished by the infinitive mood as being the most general form of the verb, a method of translation adopted by most lexicographers.

In the compilation of this work the author has availed himself of the Irish Grammars of Neilson, Connellan, O'Donovan, &c.

He begs here to acknowledge his obligations to Thaddeus O'Mahony, Esq., of Trinity College, Dublin, and particularly to the Rev. Professor Foley, B. D., whose accurate knowledge both of the vernacular and classical language is well known, and who kindly revised both the manuscript and the proof-sheets of the work, and added several valuable remarks of his own throughout; and lastly, he would return his best thanks to the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, for their liberality in granting a considerable sum for the printing of the present work; and to Mr. Gill for the care and accuracy with which he has printed the work.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN,
June 4, 1855.

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IRISH GRAMMAR.

PART I.

ORTHOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER I.

§ 1.—The Alphabet.

The Aibgitir na Gaoidheilge, or Irish Alphabet, consists of eighteen letters: they are—

		SOUND.	EXAMPLE.
A a	1.	Long, as *a* in *ball*.	bán, *white.*
	2.	Short, as *a* in *far*.	cap, *come.*
	3.	Obscure, as *a* in *negative*. .	liompa, *with me.*
	4.	Aḋ final, pronounced as *oo* in *boor*.	
B b		As *b* in *bind*.	bean, *a woman.*
C c	1.	Before a slender vowel, as *k* in *king*.	ciall, *sense.*
	2.	Before a broad vowel, as *c* in *call*.	cat, *a battle.*
D d	1.	Before a broad vowel, as *th* in *thou*.	dán, *a poem.*
	2.	Before a slender vowel, as *d* in *guardian*.	deapmad, *forgetfulness.*
E e		Long, as *e* in *there*. . . .	fé, *six.*
F f		As *f* in *fun*.	fear, *a man.*
G g	1.	Before a slender vowel, as *g* in *get*.	gean, *love.*
	2.	Before a broad vowel, as *g* in *gone*.	gan, *without.*
H h		Pronounced as in English.	
I i	1.	As *i* in *fin*.	min, *meal.*
	2.	As *i* in *marine*.	mín, *mild.*
L l	1.	As *ll* in *mill*.	mil, *honey.*
	2.	As *l* in *valiant*.	buille, *a blow.*
M m		*As m in me*.	mé, I.

N n	Nearly as *n* in *new* . . .	nı́,	*not.*
O o	1. Long, as *o* in *more.* . . .	mór,	*great.*
	2. Short, as *u* in *bulk.* . . .	olc,	*evil.*
P p	As *p* in pond.	pobal,	*a congregation.*
R r	As *r* in *raw.*	rann,	*a part.*
S s	1. As *sh* in *shield*, before a slender vowel.	sin,	*that.*
	2. As *s* in *son*, before a broad vowel.	sonar,	*happiness.*
T t	1. As *th* in *thirst.*	tarb,	*a bull.*
	2. As *t* in *bestial.*	tigearna,	*a lord.*
U u	1. Long, as *u* in *rule.*	cúl,	*the back part.*
	2. Short, as *u* in *put.*	cur,	*planting.*

§ 2.—Vowels; and Rule Caol le caol, &c.

A, o, and u, are called broad vowels because they have a broad sound; and e and i slender because they have a slender.

The most general rule of the Irish language is that called caol le caol agus leathan le leathan, "a slender to a slender, and a broad to a broad;" which is, that the vowel preceding a consonant, or combination of consonants, and that which follows it, are of the same class; sc. both broad, or both slender: e. g. Nom. sgológ, Gen. sgolóige; Nom. figeadóir; Gen. figeadóra; mol, molaim; buail, buaileap, bualadh. Though this rule was not always observed in ancient times, yet it is scarcely departed from in speaking the language at present, and consequently is now universally observed in writing.

§ 3.—Consonants; Aspiration, &c.

B, c, d, f, g, m, p, r, t, are called mutable consonants, because by aspiration or eclipsis they either entirely lose or change their sound.

l, n, s are called immutable consonants, because they are incapable of aspiration or eclipsis.

As the mutable consonants have very different sounds *when aspirated*, it seems proper to give them here with *their variety of* pronunciation:—

ḃ in the beginning or end of a word sounds like *v*, similar to the Hebrew ב; as, mo ḃaile, *my village;* ṗiḃ, *you.* In the middle of a word between broad vowels it is generally sounded like *w;* as, a leaḃaṗ, *his book.*

ċ is sounded like the Greek χ, or *ch*, or *gh* in *lough;* as, ḋeoċ, *a drink.*

1. ġ and ġ sound like *y* in connexion with the slender vowels e and i; as, a ġeaneaṁuin, *his birth.*

2. ġ and ġ before and after a broad vowel have a slight guttural sound; as, mo ġuṫ, *my voice.* This sound is not easily given in English, and must be learned.

ṗ is not sounded at all; as, an ṗiṗ, pronounced like as, an iṗ, *of the man.*

ṁ is pronounced like ḃ.

ṗ is pronounced like *Ph* in *Philip*, or in *philosopher;* as, a ṗáiṗ, *his suffering.*

ṡ and ṫ are pronounced like *h* alone; as, mo ṗóláṗ, *my comfort;* a ṫeanga, *his tongue.*

The immutable consonants alone admit of doubling in the middle or end of words; as, ḋuiñ, *to us.* ḋl and ln in the middle of words are pronounced like ll, and ḋn like nn; as, coḋlaḋ, *sleep;* ceaḋna, *the same.*

§ 4.—Diphthongs.

There are in Irish thirteen diphthongs, which are: ae, ai, ea, ei, eo, eu, ia, io, iu, oi, ua, ui. Ae, ao, eu, ia, ua, are always long, the remaining are sometimes long and sometimes short.

Those diphthongs which have their first vowel long are generally pronounced like dissyllables; as ṫáim, *I am.* The following is a Table of the diphthongs and their pronuciation:—

A.—*Sounds of the Long Diphthongs.*

ae	like *ai* in *pain.*	lae,	*of a day.*
ao	„ *ay* „ *mayor.*	aon,	*one.*
eu	„ *a* „ *fare.*	ġeuṗ,	*sharp.*
ia	„ *ea* „ *clear.*	ciall,	sense.
ua	somewhat like *oe* in *doer.*	ṗuaṗ,	cold.

B.—*Sounds of the Variable Diphthongs.*

aı long, like	*awi*	in	*drawing.* . . .	dáım, *I am.*
— short, „	*a*	„	*rang.*	ṙaıl, *a beam.*
— „ „	*i*	„	*irregular.* . . .	laṙaıṁ, *a light.*
ea long, „	*a*	„	*bane.*	déan, *do.*
— short, „	*ea*	„	*heart.*	ceaṙt, *just.*
eı long, „	*ei*	„	*reign.*	ṙéın, *self.*
— short, „	*i*	„	*fir.*	ǧeıṁ, *fat.*
eo long, „	*yeo*	„	*yeoman.* . . .	ṙeól, *a sail.*
— short, „	*u*	„	*dusk.*	deoċ, *a drink.*
ıo long, „	*ee*	„	*queen.*	ṙíon, *wine*
— short, „	*i*	„	*bliss.*	ṙıoṙ, *knowledge.*
ıu long, „	*ew*	„	*few.*	ṙıú, *worthy.*
— short, „	*o*	„	*done.*	ṙıuċ, *boil.*
oı long, „	*o*	„	*more.*	cóıṁ, *just.*
— „ „	*oi*	„	*toil.*	coıll, *a wood.*
— short, „	*ui*	„	*quill.*	coıṁ, *a crime.*
— „ „	*u*	„	*crutch.*	ṫṙoıd, *a fight.*
uı long, „	*ui*	„	*fruit.*	cúıǧ, *five.*
— short, „	*ui*	„	*quill.*	ṙuıl, *blood.*

§ 5.—Triphthongs.

The following five triphthongs are used in the Irish language, and are always long:—

aoı like	*ee*	in	*keep.*	maoın, *treasure.*
eoı „	*yeo*	„	*yeoman*, with *i* after it.	ṙeoıl, *flesh.*
ıaı „	*eei*	„	*seeing.*	lıaıǧ, *a physician.*
ıuı „	*iewi*	„	*viewing.*	cıuın, *gentle.*
uaı nearly like	*u*	in	*assured.*	cuaıṙd, *a visit.*

CHAPTER II.

§ 1.—Eclipsis.

Certain consonants are very frequently, both in inflexion and combination of words, prefixed to others, and thereby destroy the sound of that consonant to which they are so prefixed. This is called eclipsing the *other letter.* All the mutable consonants, except m *(which is an* eclipsing letter, not an eclipsed), when they

begin a word, and are followed by a vowel, or the immutables, may be eclipsed thus:—

b	is eclipsed by	m;	as, ár m-baile, *our town.*
c	„	g;	as, ár g-ceart, *our right.*
d and g	„	n;	as, ár n-Dia, *our God*; ár n-gearán, *our complaint.*
f and p	„	b;	as, d-fuil tu, *art thou?* ár bpéin, *our punishment.*
t	„	c;	as, ár c-slat, *the rod.*
c	„	d;	as, ar d-teine, *our fire.*

"g is but partly eclipsed by n, the sound of both letters uniting to form a compound; as, *ng* in *long*, *hang*, &c., or as ng in aingeal; thus, na n-gort, pronounced *nang urth*, *of the fields.*"—*Irish Primer*, p. 34.

Instead of the usual method, sometimes the initial letter is improperly doubled to indicate the eclipse; as, cc, tt, &c., instead of gc, dt; thus, a cclann, *their children*, for a g-clann.

There is sometimes a disregard of eclipsis, improperly used, following the English, as in the word praim, and which ought to be raim, &c.

§ 2.—Accent, &c.

An accent is placed over vowels and diphthongs when they are long; as, bás, *death*, long; mac, *son*, short. Triphthongs do not require the accent being always long.

As the following contractions are common in printed books: we here present them:—

7	agus.	ḡ	ea.	.i.	eadon, *viz.*
ꝉ	ar.	ẏ	ui.	7c	*etc.*
ꝉ	air.	n̄	nn.	p̄	ri.

PART II.

ETYMOLOGY.

CHAPTER I.

THERE are nine Parts of Speech in Irish; viz. Article, Noun, Adjective, Pronoun, Verb, Adverb, Preposition, Conjunction, and Interjection.

THE ARTICLE.

The Irish language has only one Article, which is an, and which corresponds to the definite article *the* in English; as, an ꝑeaꝛ, *the man;* and sometimes gives an abstract signification to nouns, e. g. ṫáinig an peacaḋ aiꝛ an ꝛaoġal, *sin entered the world.*—Rom. v. 12. Ḋo ṫꝛeaꝛġaiꝛ an báꝛ, *death laid low.*

The article an is thus declined:—

	Singular.		*Plural.*	
	MASC.	FEM.	MASC.	FEM.
N. & A.	an.	an.	N. & A. na.	na.
Gen.	an.	na.	Gen. na.	na.
Prep.	ḋon.	ḋon.	Prep. ḋona.	ḋona.

Or it may be expressed simply thus: Nom. an; Gen. Masc. an; Fem. na; Plural, na. The prepositional case is formed by prefixed various prepositions.

Here it may be proper to lay before the learner the changes which the article causes in the beginning of nouns.

1. If the noun begins with a vowel, the article prefixes ᴄ to the nominative singular of masculines, and h to the genitive singular of feminines: it prefixes h to all the cases of the plural except the genitive, to which n is prefixed.*

* This is explained by O'Donovan as being the substitute for eclipsing, which should take place here (vid. 2); for, as he remarks, "in *every situation* where an initial consonant is eclipsed an initial vowel *takes n; as,* áꝛ n-aꝛán, *our bread.*"—Irish Grammar, ꝑ. 65.

2. If the noun begins with a mutable consonant, except ḃ, ċ, ṗ, the article aspirates the initial mutables of masculines in the genitive and prepositional, and of feminines in the nominative and prepositional.

In the genitive plural all initial mutables, including ḃ and ċ, are eclipsed, except m and ṗ.

3. If the noun begins with ṗ, followed by a vowel, or by l, n, or ṗ, wherever the article would aspirate other consonants, it, in this case, eclipses ṗ by prefixing ċ.

4. If the noun should begin with l, n, or ṗ, or ṗ before a mute, the article causes no change whatever, or in the singular of those beginning with ḃ or ċ.

After a preposition ending in a vowel the a of the article is dropped. In printed books this is generally indicated by an apostrophe; as, ó'n.

CHAPTER II.

The Noun.

§ 1.—The Noun generally.

The properties of nouns are, Gender, Number, Person, and Case.

There are but two genders in Irish,—the Masculine and the Feminine. The following are a few general rules for ascertaining to which a noun belongs; but in most cases the learner must find the gender by experience, or from a lexicon.

The following nouns are masculine:—Names of men and males generally.

Diminutives in an, in; derivatives in aiḋe, aiḋ, uiḋe, oiḋe, aipe, óip,* op, aċ; abstract substantives in ar; as, ċineaṗ, *sickness;* and usually monosyllables in aċ, iċċ, up, and uċ; as, uċċ, *the breast.*

Generally the following are feminine:—Names of

* Personal nouns ending in óip; as, ḃuaiḷteoip, a thrasher.

women and females, of countries, rivers, and diseases; diminutives in óg; derivatives in acht; as, ríogacht, *a kingdom;* and abstract substantives, except those in ar; as, gile, *whiteness;* and in most cases those nouns in which the last vowel is slender.

Neilson says there are in Irish six cases: the Nominative, Genitive, Dative, Accusative, Vocative, and Ablative: in form these may be reduced to four.* The Nominative, Genitive, *Prepositional case*† (which includes the cases usually called the Dative and Ablative, for these are both formed by prepositions), and the Vocative. This arrangement will serve to simplify the nouns and adjectives very much. Under the nominative form we include the relations of the nominative and accusative; under the prepositional, as we said before, the dative and ablative.‡

The only thing then necessary to be said about the cases is, that in the termination, the *nominative* and *vocative feminine* are *always alike*, and *the genitive* and *vocative masculine.*

There are five declensions§ of nouns in Irish, which follow.

§ 2.—First Declension—Masculines.

The genitive is formed from the nominative by adding a slender vowel to the broad one in the termination, or by changing the broad vowel or diphthong of the noun into a slender one.

---

* There seems no just ground to conclude, with O'Donovan, that there is but one case different from the nominative, in whatever sense we understand the word "case."

† This is the name given by O'Donovan in speaking of the cases, but throughout the rest of his Grammar he calls it the Dative.

‡ We cannot be blamed any more for this than Lindley Murray, who reduces the cases of the English to three, nominative, genitive, and objective, and still farther, to the nominative and genitive.

§ Neilson makes only four, and Connellan six. We have followed *O'Donovan in making* five.

In the plural the nominative is like the genitive singular, and the genitive like the nominative singular.

The prepositional case ends in the plural in ıb; this is invariable throughout all the declensions.

The vocative case plural is formed by adding a to the nominative singular.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. ball.	Nom. baill.
Gen. baill.	Gen. ball.
Prep. do ball.*	Prep. do ballaıb.
Voc. a baill.†	Voc. a balla.

In like manner decline—

Singular.	*Plural.*
Dall, *a blind man.*	Carán, *a path.*
Fear, Gen. fir, *a man.*	Sólár, *comfort.*
Mac, *a son.*	bromaċ, *a colt.*

Some nouns of this declension form the nominative plural by adding ta to the singular; as, feol, feolta.

Many nouns ending in aċ form the nominative plural by adding e to genitive singular; ċ in declension becomes ġ; as, ualac; Gen. Sing. ualaıġ; Nom. Pl. ualaıġe.

"When the nominative plural has a different form from the genitive singular, the dative plural of regular nouns is, without exception, formed from it in this and all the other declensions; as, fgéal, fgéalta; Dat. Pl. fgéaltaıb."—*O'Donovan.*

§ 3.—Second Declension.

The nouns of this declension are generally feminine.

---

* The aspiration of the b does not depend upon whether the case be what was classed dative or ablative, but on the preposition used in either case.

† a or o is always prefixed to the vocative. It aspirates the initial mutable.

The genitive singular has a slender increase. This causes an attenuation of the preceding syllable, if it be not slender already; according to the rule caol le caol, ꝛc.

The prepositional case is formed from the genitive by dropping the increase.

The nominative plural has an increase regulated by the rule, caol le caol, ꝛc.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. cor.	Nom. cora.
Gen. coire.	Gen. cor.
Prep. do choir.	Prep. do chorai̇b.
Voc. a choir.*	Voc. a chora.

In like manner decline—

trioblóid, *trouble.*	cnoc, *a cross.*
sgológ, *a farmer.*	cloc, *a stone.*

Some nouns, the vowel of whose termination is slender, form the plural either by adding a slender termination, or eanna; as, luib, *an herb;* Pl. luibe, or luibeanna: "but the latter form," says O'Donovan, "which is like the Saxon termination *en* (as in *oxen*, *women*), is more general, and better than the former because more distinct and forcible."—*Irish Grammar*, p. 91.

In Munster they sometimes use a compound termination; as, luibe, luibeanaca.

If the nominative plural be formed by adding te to the singular, as sometimes happens, the genitive plural is formed from it by adding ad; as, coill, *a wood;* Nom. Pl. coillte; Gen. Pl. coilltead.

§ 4.—Third Declension.

The nouns of this declension are of both the masculine and feminine gender.

The genitive singular has a broad increase.

---

* *Some grammarians* give this, a chor, but the vocative of nouns *having a broad* vowel in the termination of the nominative is generally *attenuated.*

The prepositional case ends like the nominative in the singular number.

The nominative plural takes a slender increase, ıδe and ꞇe, and a broad increase in a, aña, and aċa.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛ.	Nom. ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛıδe.
Gen. ꝑıǯeaḃóꝛa.	Gen. ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛ.
Prep. ḃ'ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛ.	Prep. ḃ'ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛıḃ.
Voc. a ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛ.	Voc. a ꝑıǯeaḃóıꝛıδe.

Carefully observing the rule caol le caol, ꝛc, decline—

meallꞇóıꝛ, *a deceiver.*	ꝛlánuıǯꞇeoıꝛ, *a saviour.*
móın, *a bog.*	ꝑıoꝛ, *knowledge.*
lıoꝛ, *a rath.*	ꝑeoıl, *flesh.*

Also, aṫaıꝛ, *a father;* Gen. aṫaꝛa; Nom. Pl. aıṫꝛe, or aıṫꝛeaċa; ḃꝛáṫaıꝛ, *a brother;* and máṫaıꝛ, *a mother;* also, cuıḃ; Gen. coḃa, *a part.*

Those nouns in which the nominative plural ends in ṫe form the genitive by adding aḃ:—móın; Gen. Pl. móınꞇeaḃ.

§ 5.—Fourth Declension.

The fourth declension comprises nouns of both genders which have no change in the singular number. Most nouns ending in vowels, and generally those in ıǯ, ıḃ, and ın, are of this declension.

The nominative plural is generally formed by adding ıδe, ꞇe, and ṫe, to nominative singular.

The genitive plural is formed by adding ḋ or aḃ to nominative singular, and sometimes to nominative plural.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. ꝑáıñe.	Nom. ꝑáıñıδe.
Gen. ꝑáıñe.	Gen. ꝑáıñeaḃ.
Prep. ḃ'ꝑáıñe.	Prep. ḃ'ꝑáıñıḃ.
Voc. a ꝑáıñe.	Voc. a ꝑaıñıδe.

Ꝺuıne, *a person*, makes ꝺaoıne; aıṫne makes aıṫeanꞇa *in the* nominative plural.

§ 6.—Fifth Declension.*

This declension is of both genders.

The genitive singular is formed by adding n or n̄.

The prepositional case is formed by attenuating the termination of the genitive singular.

The nominative plural is generally formed by adding a to the genitive singular. Some nouns of this declension form their plurals irregularly, but they will be learned by practice, or from the Dictionary.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. cóṁarra.	Nom. cóṁarrana.
Gen. cóṁarran.	Gen. cóṁarra.
Prep. do cóṁarram.	Prep. do cóṁarranaiḃ.
Voc. a cóṁarra.	Voc. a cóṁarrana.

§ 7.—Irregular Nouns.

Dia, *God;* lá, *a day;* bean, *a woman;* bó, *a cow;* mí, *a month;* caora, *a sheep;* cró, *a hovel;* brú, or broinn, *a womb;* ceo, *a fog;* cré, *clay*, are quite irregular, and are declined as follows:—

Dia, *m.*, *God.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. Dia.	Nom. Dée, or Déiṫe.
Gen. Dé.	Gen. Dia, or Déiṫeaḋ.
Prep. do Dia.	Prep. do Déiḃ, or Déiṫiḃ.
Voc. a Dé, or Dia.	Voc. a Dée, or Déiṫe.

* Connellan makes a sixth declension of those which end in aṫ; as, caṫair, *a city.* "If," he says, "the characteristic vowel be slender, it will be omitted in the genitive, but will be retained in the dative; if broad, the dative will take a small inflexion. The vocative is like the nominative; the genitive plural is generally like the genitive singular in form."—*Irish Grammar*, p. 25. This declension, however, is unnecessary.

lá, *m.*, *a day.*

Nom.	lá.	Nom.	laeċe, or láiċe, and laoċanca.
Gen.	lae.	Gen.	laeċeaḋ, or lá.
Prep.	ḋo lá, or lóṫ.	Prep.	ḋo laeċiḃ, or láiċiḃ.
Voc.	a lá, or lae.	Voc.	a laeċe, or láiċe.

ḃean, *f.*, *a woman.*

Nom.	ḃean.	Nom.	mná.
Gen.	mná.	Gen.	ḃan.
Prep.	ḋo ṁnaoi	Prep.	ḋo ṁnáiḃ.
Voc.	a ḃean.	Voc.	a ṁná.

ḃó, *f.*, *a cow.*

Nom.	ḃó.	Nom.	ḃá, or baċ.
Gen.	ḃó.	Gen.	ḃó.
Prep.	ḋo ḃuin.	Prep.	ḋo ḃuaiḃ.
Voc.	a ḃó.	Voc.	a ḃá.

Mí, *f.*, *a month.*

Nom.	mí.	Nom.	míoṙa.
Gen.	míoṙa, míṙ.	Gen.	míoṙ.
Prep.	ḋo ṁíṙ, ṁí.	Prep.	a ṁíoṙaiḃ.
Voc.	a ṁí.	Voc.	a ṁíoṙa.

Caoṙa, *f.*, *a sheep.*

Nom.	caoṙa.	Nom.	caoiṙiġ.
Gen.	caoṙaḋ.	Gen.	caoṙaḋ.
Prep.	ḋo ċaoṙa.	Prep.	ḋo ċaoṙċaiḃ
Voc.	a ċaoṙa.	Voc.	a ċaoṙċa.

Cṙó, *m.*, *a hut.*

	Singular.		*Plural.*
Nom.	cṙó.	Nom.	cṙaoiċe, and cṙóiċe.
Gen.	cṙaoi.	Gen.	cṙó.
Prep.	ḋo ċṙó.	Prep.	ḋo ċṙaoiċiḃ, & ċṙóiċiḃ.
Voc.	a ċṙó.	Voc.	a ċṙaoiċe, & ċṙóiċe.

bpú, *f.*, *the womb.*

Nom. bpú.	Nom. bpoṅa.
Gen. bpuiṅe, or bpoṅ.	Gen. bpoṅ.
Prep. do bpoiṅ.	Prep. bpoṅaib.
Voc. a bpú.	Voc. a bpoṅa.

Ceo, *a fog*, makes ceoiġ, and ciaċ in the genitive singular.

Cpé, *f.*, *clay*, in the singular is declined thus:—

Nom. cpé.
Gen. cpiaḋ.
Prep. do cpé.
Voc. a cpé.

It would be well for the learner to practise himself in affixing the article to nouns, and to go through several nouns thus. The changes and eclipses which are caused by the article have been given in Chap. I. We give a few nouns here illustrative of each rule:—

an ṫaḋaip, *the father.*	an ṫapal, *the ass.*
an ṫeapboġ, *the bishop.*	an ḟear, *the man.*
an óiġ, *the virgin.*	an mac, *the son.*
an eala, *the swan.*	an ḃean, *the woman.*
an ġeuġ, *the branch.*	an ṙliaḋ, *the mountain.*
an ṙaġarṫ, *the priest.*	an ṫúil, *the eye.*
an ṙioṅaċ, *the fox.*	an ṫpiaṫ, *the rod.*
an ṫaingeal, *the angel.*	

CHAPTER III.

The Adjective.

There are four declensions of adjectives.

§ 1.—The First Declension.

The first declension consists of adjectives ending in *consonants having* the vowel of the last syllable broad.

In the masculine the inflexions are the same as those of the first declension of nouns, except that the nominative plural ends in a.

In the feminine the inflexions are the same as those of the second declension of nouns.

Caol, *slender.*

	Singular.		*Plural.*
	MASC.	FEM.	MASC. AND FEM.
Nom.	caol.	caol.	Nom. caola.
Gen.	caoil.	caoile.	Gen. caol.
Prep.	ċaol.	ċaoil.	Prep. caola.*
Voc.	ċaoil.	ċaol.	Voc. caola.

In like manner decline

árd, *high.*	mór, *great.*
dub, *black.*	bán, *white.*

§ 2.—Second Declension.

This declension consists of adjectives ending in consonants, and having the vowel of their last syllable slender.

The genitive singular masculine does not change, but the genitive singular feminine and nominative plural have a small increase in e.

Min, *smooth.*

	Singular.		*Plural.*
	MASC.	FEM.	MASC. AND FEM.
Nom.	mín.	ṁín.	Nom. míne.
Gen.	ṁín.	míne.	Gen. mín.
Prep.	ṁín.	ṁín.	Prep. míne.
Voc.	ṁín.	ṁín.	Voc. míne.

Decline as examples, arraiġ, *ancient,* and tair, *tender.*

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* It is to be remarked that the prepositional case plural never terminates in ib unless when the adjective is used substantively. In adjectives *this case is* mostly like the nominative plural.

§ 3.—Third Declension.

Adjectives ending in aṁuil belong to this declension. The genitive singular, and nominative, vocative, and prepositional cases plural, are syncopated, and take a broad increase in a.

Ȝeanaṁuil, *lovely.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
MASC. AND FEM.	MASC. AND FEM.
Nom. ȝeanaṁuil.	Nom. ȝeanaṁla.
Gen. ȝeanaṁla.	Gen. ȝeanaṁuil.
Prep. ȝeanaṁuil.	Prep. ȝeanaṁla.
Voc. ȝeanaṁuil.	Voc. ȝeanaṁla.

In like manner decline ꝑeaꝑaṁuil, *manly;* banaṁuil, *womanly.* This termination, aṁuil, seems to mean *like to,* cognate, perhaps, to the Latin SIMIL-IS; thus, ꝑeaꝑaṁuil, *like to a man, manly;* ȝeanaṁuil, like to ȝean, *grace,* i. e. lovely.

§ 4.—Fourth Declension.

This declension consists of adjectives ending in vowels: they are alike in all cases, genders and numbers.*

Ꝺoꝛꝺa, *aged.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
MASC. AND FEM.	MASC. AND FEM.
Nom. ꝺoꝛꝺa.	Nom. ꝺoꝛꝺa.
Gen. ꝺoꝛꝺa.	Gen. ꝺoꝛꝺa.
Prep. ꝺoꝛꝺa.	Prep. ꝺoꝛꝺa.
Voc. ꝺoꝛꝺa.	Voc. ꝺoꝛꝺa.

* "The only exception in the modern language is the word ꝺeiṫ, *hot;* which makes ꝺeó in the plural. In the ancient language exceptions to this rule may be met with; as, ꝺeo, *living;* Gen. Sing. ꝺi; as in mac ꝺé ꝺí, *son of the living God.*"—O'Donovan's *Irish Grammar,* p. 113, n. "In the plural it makes ꝺeóꝺa, or ꝺeoꝺa."—*Connellan.* ꝺeiṫ, however, is no exception as it is an irregular adjective, and does not end in a vowel.

§ 5.—Adjectives declined with Nouns.

Adjectives beginning with mutable consonants are aspirated in the nominative singular feminine, in the genitive singular masculine, in the vocative case singular of both genders, and in the plural in the nominative masculine if the noun ends in a consonant, and the prepositional masculine.*

An ḟear geal, *the white man.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. an ḟear geal.	Nom. na ḟir geala.
Gen. an ḟir gil.	Gen. na bḟear ngeal.
Prep. don ḟear geal.	Prep. dona ḟearaib gcala.
Voc. a ḟir gil.	Voc. a ḟeara geala.

An bean geal, *the white woman.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
Nom. an bean geal.	Nom. na mná geala.
Gen. na mná gile.	Gen. na mban ngeal.
Prep. don mnaoi gil.	Prep. dona mnáib gcala.
Voc. a bean geal.	Voc. a mná geala.

After this manner the learner might exercise himself in the following, given by Neilson in his Irish Grammar:—

MASC.	FEM.
an la ḟuar, *the cold day.*	an maidin ḟuar, *the cold morning.*
an crann mór, *the great tree.*	an cloc mór, *the great stone.*

"Consonants," as O'Donovan remarks, "are aspirated in the plural merely for the sake of euphony, and not to distinguish the gender; for whenever the noun to which the adjective belongs terminates in a vowel, the

* It is not easy to lay down any general rule about the prepositional case singular, as the influence upon the noun or adjective depends *upon the preposition* employed.

initial consonant of the adjective retains its natural sound; as, ceolṫa bin̄e, *sweet melodies.*"

§ 6.—The Degrees of Comparison.

In Irish there are three degrees of comparison,—the *Positive*, *Comparative*, and *Superlative.*

In both the comparative and superlative the form of the adjective is the same, and they are distinguished from one another only by the particle affixed, or the context.

The comparative is formed by putting nſoṙ, *more*, before the genitive singular feminine of the positive, and the superlative by putting ıṙ, or aṙ, *most*, before the same; as, ȝeal, *white;* nſoṙ ȝıle, *whiter;* aṙ ȝıle, *whitest.**

The postfix ṫe is entitled to be considered a degree of comparison in an important sense, for, though it means "of it," literally, the analysis of its meaning does not gainsay its use as a comparative, for it really compares a person or thing with its former self, and denotes a change, or an intensity of the quality expressed by the simple adjective.

§ 7.—Irregular Adjectives.

The following adjectives are irregular in their comparison, that is, they form their comparatives, and some their superlatives, from adjectives now obsolete:—

Positive.	*Comparative.*	*Superlative.*
beaȝ, *little.*	nſoṙ luȝa	aṙ luȝa.
ḟaḋa, *long.*	nſoṙ ḟaıḋe, nſoṙ ṙıa.	aṙ ṙıa.
ḟuṙuṙ, uṙuṙ, *easy.*	nſoṙ uṙa, ḟuṙa.	aṙ uṙa.
ḟoȝuṙ, *near.*	nſoṙ ḟoıȝṙe, ḟoıṙȝe.	ıṙ ḟoıȝṙe.
ȝáṙ, *near.*	nſoṙ ȝoıṙe, ȝaıṙe.	

* The Irish language admits of what may be called a superlative of eminence by prefixing the particles ṙó, ṙáṙ, óṙ, an, úṙ, to the *adjective, which may* generally be translated by our English word *very, sometimes by much, too.* If the adjective in this case begin with a *mutable consonant,* it is aspirated.

Positive.	*Comparative.*	*Superlative.*
ɡeápp, *short.*	níor ɡiorra.	——
maiṫ, *good.*	níor feárr.	ar fearr.
minic, *often.*	níor minca.	——
mór, *great.*	níor mó.	ar mó.
olc, *bad.*	níor measa.	ar measa.
teiṫ, *hot.*	níor teo.	ar teo.

§ 8.—Numeral Adjectives.

There is little to be said about the numerals, except to give a mere list of them. The learner will find it very important to be acquainted with these forms. Observe, however, that dó, *two*, and ceaṫair, are never used with the noun, as they express the numbers in the abstract.

VALUE.	CARDINAL, *one*, ETC.	ORDINAL, *first*, ETC.
1.	aon.	céad.
2.	dá; abstract form, dó.	dara.
3.	trí.	tríar and tríṁad.
4.	ceithre; abstract, ceathair.	ceathramad.
5.	cúig.	cúigead.
6.	sé.	seisead and séiṁead.
7.	seacht.	seachtmad.
8.	ocht.	ochtmad.
9.	naoi.	naoṁad.
10.	deich.	deichead.
11.	aon-déag.	aonṁad déag.
12.	dó-déag.	dara déag.
13.	trí-déag.	tríṁead déag, or triar déag.
20.	fiche, fichead.	fichead, fichead.
21.	aon a'r fiche, or aon ar f.	aonṁad ar fichid.
30.	deich ar fichid, triocad.	triocadad, or deichead ar fichid.
40.	dá fhichid.	dá fhichead.
50.	caogad, caoga, deich a'r dá fhichid.	deichead ar dá fhichid.
60.	trí fichid.	tri fichead.
70.	deich ir trí fichid.	deichead ar trí fichid.
80.	ceithre fichid, ochtmogad.	ceithre fichidead, or ochtmogadad.
90.	nocad, deich ir ceithre fichid.	deichead ar ceithre fichid, or nocadad.
100.	ceud and céad.	ceudad and céadad.
1000.	*mile.*	milead.
1,000,000.	*milliún.*	milliúnad.

All the following nouns, except the first, are formed from the cardinals:—

dís, or beirt, *two persons.*	seachtar, and mórtheirear, *seven persons.*
triúr, *three persons.*	ochtar, *eight persons.*
ceathrar, *four persons.*	naonbar, *nine persons,*
cúigear, *five persons.*	deichneabar, *ten persons.*
seisear, *six persons.*	

Though, as O'Donovan remarks, it is evident, fear, *a man,* enters into the composition of the most of these, this idea, as he states, has been long forgotten, and we could apply them to *women* as well as *men.* From this observation of O'Donovan's we must except dís and beirt, which, not being compounded with fear, generally require their proper substantives in the genitive plural.

CHAPTER IV.

The Pronoun.

There are six kinds of Pronouns, viz.—Personal, Possessive, Relative, Demonstrative, Interrogative, and Indefinite. The compound pronouns cannot be considered as a separate class, as they are merely personal pronouns with prepositions.

§ 1.—Personal Pronouns.

There are four personal pronouns:—mé, *I;* tú, *thou;* sé, *he;* and sí, *she;* which, when used emphatically, take an additional syllable, called the "emphatic increase." We give here the two forms, simple and emphatic. It will be observed that the genitive case admits of no emphatic increase.

First Person. Mé, *I.*

Simple.	*Emphatic.*
Nom. mé.	Nom. mise.
Gen. mo.	——
Prep. dam.	Prep. damsa.

Plural.

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. ṙiñ, iñ.*	Nom. ṙiñe.
Gen. ḋṇ.	——
Prep. ḃúiñ.	Prep. ḃúiñe.

Second Person. Ṫú, *thou.*

Singular.

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. ṫú, ṫu.	Nom. ṫuṙa.
Gen. ḋo.	——
Prep. ḋuiṫ.	Prep. ḋuiṫṙe.
Voc. ṫu.	Voc. ṫuṙa.

Plural.

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. ṙiḃ, ib.	Nom. ṙiḃṙe.
Gen. ḃuṇ.	——
Prep. ḋaoiḃ, ḋíḃ.	Prep. ḋaoiḃṙe.
Voc. ṙiḃ.	Voc. ṙiḃṙe.

Third Person Masculine. Sé, *he.*

Singular.

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. ṙé, é.	Nom. ṙéṙean, éṙean.
Gen. a.	——
Prep. ḋó.	Prep. ḋóṙan.

Third Person Feminine. Sí, *she.*

Singular.

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. ṙí, í.	Nom. ṙiṙe, iṙe.
Gen. a.	——
Prep. ḋi.	Prep. ḋiṙe.†

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* Siñ, ṙiḃ, ṙé, ṙí are the forms generally used for the nominative, and é, í, for the accusative; the forms iñ, ib are nearly now in disuse.

† Ḋiṙin *is a form* used when contempt is intended.

THIRD PERSON PLURAL COMMON GENDER. Siad, *they.*

SIMPLE.	EMPHATIC.
Nom. iad, iadh.	Nom. iadsan, iadsan.
Gen. a.	
Prep. dóibh.*	Prep. dóibsean.

It will be observed that the emphatic increase is always put according to the rule caol le caol, &c. It is this that causes the increase after mé to be written se; as, mise; the increase after tú, not se, as that would violate the rule, but sa, as tusa; also san to be written sean, &c. Attention must be paid to this rule throughout.

Séin, *self*, is often affixed to the personal pronouns; as, méséin, *myself*, &c.

§ 2.—POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS.

The possessive pronouns are the same in form as the genitives of the personal pronouns, though not to be confounded with them; they are,—mo, *my;* do, *thy;* a, *his*, or *her;* ár, *ours;* bur, *yours;* and a, *their*s.

The possessives mo, do, and bur take the emphatic increase sa, or se; ár takes na or ne; and a san, or sean, according to the rule caol le caol, &c.; but the increase is always postfixed to the noun qualified by the possessives, or if that noun has an adjective to the adjective.

The following are the combinations of the possessives with prepositions:—

1. *With* do, *to.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
dom, *to my.*	dár, *to our.*
dod, *to thy.*	
dá, *to his, to her.*	dá, *to their.*

* The other prepositions, as well as do, might be exhibited as instances of prepositional cases of pronouns: but these combinations will be found in § 7.

2. *With* le, *with.*

Singular.
lem, *with my.*
leo, *with thy.*

3. *With* an, *in.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
am, *in my.*	'nár, *in our.*
ad, ac, *in thy.*	——
na, *in his* or *her.*	na, *in their.*

4. *With* ó, *from.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
óm, *from my.*	——
óo, *from thy.*	——
óna, *from his* or *her.*	óna, *from their.*

§ 3.—Relative Pronouns.

a, *who, which,* or *what;* noċ, *who, which;* náċ, *which not;* da, sometimes *who, which,* sometimes *of which, of what;* cé bé, *who ever;* are the relative pronouns in Irish.

Neilson says: "The simple and original relative is a, *who, which,* for which do, or noċ, is often used in writing . . . cé bé is a contraction for cia, ce, or ci, *who;* ba, *were,* and é, or í, *he, she,* or *it.* But in all these expressions the relative a, *who* or *which,* is either expressed or understood."

§ 4.—Interrogative Pronouns.

The interrogatives are cia or ce, fem., cí, *who*—Latin, *quis;* plural, ciad, *who, what;* cad, creud, go dé, *what;* cá, gá, *what* or *where.*

"Go dé, as it is commonly written and pronounced,

may be only an abbreviation for guid (Latin, *quid*) é? *what is it?*"—*Neilson.*

§ 5.—Demonstrative Pronouns.

The demonstrative pronouns are: so, *this, these;* sin, *that, those;* súd, or úd, *yonder.* They are all indeclinable.

"When so follows a word whose last vowel is slender, it is written si, or se, and sometimes seo; as, na h-aimsire si, *of this time;** and sin, when it follows a word whose last vowel is broad, is written san or soin [sean?]."—*O'Donovan.* These changes are to accord with the rule caol le caol, &c.

"Súd is generally used with personal pronouns, and úd with nouns."—*Connellan.*

§ 6.—Indefinite Pronouns.

These are: éigin, *some;* gibé or cibé,† *whoever;* aon, *any;* eile, *other;* a chéile, *each other;* gach, *every, each;* gach uile, *every;* cách, *any other;* neach, *any one;* ceachtar, or neachtar, *either;* an té, *the person who;* uile, *all.* Cách makes cáich in the genitive singular; the rest are indeclinable.

§ 7.—Pronouns Compounded with Prepositions.

We have before given the combinations of the possessive pronouns with various prepositions; the personal are likewise compounded; and as these combinations occur frequently, they ought to be committed carefully to memory. These are, in fact, the personal pronouns in the prepositional case. There are fifteen of these combinations now in general use.

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* Keating's Hist., page 2.

†Spelled also gib b'é, cia b'é, evidently for gib or cid bad é; cib b'é is *whatever.*

1.—*With* ag, *at* or *with*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
agam, *with me.*	aguinn, *with us.*
agad, or agat, *with thee.*	aguib, *with you.*
age, *with him.*	aca, *with them.*
aici, *with her.*	

2. *With* ar, *out of*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
aram, *out of me.*	aruinn, *out of us.*
arad, or arat, *out of thee.*	aruib, *out of you.*
ar, *out of him.*	arta, arda, *out of them.*
airde, airti, *out of her.*	

3. *With* ar, *upon*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
orm, *on me.*	orruinn, *on us.*
ort, *on thee.*	orruib, *on you.*
air, *on him.*	orta, or orra, *on them.*
uirre, uirri, *on her.*	

4. *With* cum, *towards, to*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
cugam, *unto me.*	cugainn, *unto us.*
cugad, cúgat, *unto thee.*	cugaib, *unto you.*
cuige, *unto him.*	cuca and cuca, *unto them.*
cúici, *unto her.*	

5. *With* de, *from, off*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
díom, *from me.*	díinn, *from us.*
díot, *from thee.*	díb, *from you.*
de, *from him.*	díob, *from them.*
di, *from her.*	

6. *With* do, *to*.

Singular.	*Plural.*
dam, and dom, *to me.*	dúinn, *to us.*
duit, *to thee.*	daoib, díb, *to you.*
dó, *to him.*	dóib, *to them.*
di, *to her.*	

7. *With* eidir, *or* idir, *between.*

Plural.

eadrainn, *between us.*
eadraibh, *between you.*
eatorra, and eatortha, *between them.*

8. *With* fa, or fo, *under.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
fúm, *under me.*	fúinn, *under us.*
fút, fúit, *under thee.*	fúibh, *under you.*
faoi, and fé, *under him.*	fúthu, *under them.*
fúithe, fúithi, *under her.*	

9. *With* ann, *in.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
ionam, *in me.*	ionainn, *in us.*
ionat, ionait, *in thee.*	ionaibh, *in you.*
ann, *in him.*	iontu, *in them.*
inti, inthi, *in her.*	

10. *With* im, *or* um, *upon* or *about.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
umam, *about me.*	umainn, *about us.*
umat, umait, *about thee.*	umaibh, *about you.*
uime, *about him.*	umpa, *about them.*
uimpi, uimpe, *about her.*	

11. *With* le, *or* fe, *with.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
liom, fiom, *with me.*	linn, finn, *with us.*
leat, fiot, *with thee.*	libh, fibh, *with you.*
leis, fis, *with him.*	leo, fiu, *with them.*
lé, léithe, fia, *with her.*	

12. *With* o, *or* ua, *from.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
uaim, *from me.*	uainn, *from us.*
uait, *from thee.*	uaibh, *from you.*
uaidh, *from him.*	uathu, *from them.*
uaithi, uaithe, *from her.*	

13. *With* roiṁ, *before.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
róṁam, *before me.*	róṁaiñ, *before us.*
róṁad, róṁat, *before thee.*	róṁaiḃ, *before you.*
roime, *before him.*	rómpa, *before them.*
roimpe, roimpi, *before her.*	

14. *With* tar, *beyond.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṫorm, *over me.*	ṫorraiñ, *over us.*
ṫorṫ, ṫoraḋ, *over thee.*	ṫorraiḃ, *over you.*
ṫairir, *over him.*	ṫárra, ṫárṫa, *over them.*
ṫáirre, ṫáirri, *over her.*	

15. *With* tré, *through.*

Singular.	*Plural.*
tríom, *through me.*	triiñ, *through us.*
tríoṫ, *through thee.*	tríḃ, *through you.*
tríḋ, *through him.*	tríoṫa, *through them.*
tríṫe, tríṫi, *through her.*	

The emphatic increases for these compounds are, in the singular, ra for the first and second person, rean for the third person. In the plural, ne, ni, for the first person; ra, re, for the second person; and ran, rean, for the third person.

Observe all through the rule caol le caol, &c.

CHAPTER V.

The Verb.

§ 1.—Of the Verb generally.

To verbs belong Voices, Moods, Tenses, Numbers, and Persons.

In Irish there are three kinds of verbs: Active, Passive, and Neuter.

There are five variations of the verb as to significa-

tion: the Indicative, Imperative, Conditional, and Infinitive moods, and the Participle.*

There are five variations of the verb as to time: the Present, the Consuetudinal Present, the Past, the Consuetudinal Past, and the Future.

The root of the verb is the second person singular imperative active, from which all the other parts of the verb are formed by affixing certain terminations. Changes also take place in the beginning, but they are generally euphonic, and caused by certain particles prefixed, which serve to mark out some of the moods and tenses, and are sometimes not expressed, but understood.

The persons of the verb are formed in two different ways, analytically and synthetically. The analytic mode is the simplest; it expresses the various persons by the third person singular of the verb and the personal pronouns. The synthetic, which is the mode generally used in the ancient language, expresses the persons by terminational endings. Thus, in the analytic mode the verb is the same throughout, the different pronouns marking the various persons and the number. In the synthetic the verb has distinct terminations for each

* What O'Donovan calls the Subjunctive Mood does not appear entitled to be called a mood in the Irish language. The influence of the particles, after which he states that mood follows, is no more entitled to that distinction than that of several other particles which will be found in § 3; and which it will be more simple for the learner to consult at one view. Mood is a variation of the verb as to signification, and there appears no good reason why the phrase *he is*, &c., should be in the indicative, and the phrases *he is not, is he? that he is*, &c., should be in the subjunctive mood, according to the theory, which in these instances would make mood to consist in the influence of certain particles upon initials, while in regular verbs a subjunctive mood is not allowed, even when the same initial changes take place. This theory requires that defective or irregular verbs have a mood which the regular verbs want, though in many instances given, the forms and signification of the regular and irregular verbs are exactly the same; and lastly, it is more simple to give the *very few forms* which are peculiar in their proper place, as there is *nothing in the signification* even of these few to make it necessary to *perplex the learner* by making a separate mood.

person except the third person singular. Thus the analytic form of the present indicative of bí is—

Singular.	*Plural.*
tá mé, *I am.*	tá muid, *we are.*
tá tú, *thou art.*	tá sibh, *you are.*
tá sé, *he is.*	tá siad, *they are.*

But the synthetic

táim, *I am.*	támaoid, *we are.*
táir, *thou art.*	tátaoi, *you are.*
tá sé, *he is.*	táid, *they are.*

The analytic is generally used in asking a question; e. g. an labhraí tú Gaoidhilge? *Do you speak Irish?* But in answering, the synthetic; thus, the answer to the above would be, labhraim, *I speak.* "Should the answer be a continued subject, then either form may be used. The pronoun should never be used separately after the synthetic form, as it is only a repetition of the pronoun; as, déanfaid siad, *they, they will do.*"—*Connellan.*

In English the analytic is the form used; in Latin the synthetic:

I love, *amo.*	We love, *amamus.*
Thou lovest, *amas.*	You love, *amatis.*
He loves, *amat.*	They love, *amant.*

But even in the English language there are evident traces of a synthetic form: thus, *thou lovest; he loves;* where *st* and *s* are evidently traces of terminational endings.

"Each of the tenses has a relative form ending in ar, ear, or ior in the present and future tenses of the indicative mood in the modern language . . . but in all the other tenses it is like the form for the third person singular; as, a ceilear, *who conceals;* a ceilfear, *who will conceal;* a ceil, *who concealed;* a ceileadh, *who used to conceal.*"—O'Donovan's *Irish Grammar.*

In affixing terminations to the verb, the rule caol le caol agus leathan le leathan must be constantly kept in mind.

The terminational endings of the verb are given in the following Table.

TABLE OF PERSONAL ENDINGS.

		Active Voice.		Passive Voice.	
		Singular.	Plural.	Singular.	Plural.
Imperative Mood.		2. —— 3. —— aḋ ṗé.	1. maoiṛ, or miṛ. 2. ṡḋ. 3. ıḃíṛ.	1. ṫaṛ mé. 2. ṫaṛ ṫú. 3. ṫaṛ é.	1. ṫaṛ ṗiñ. 2. ṫaṛ ṗiḃ. 3. ṫaṛ ıaḋ.
Indicative Mood.	Present.	1. ım. 2. ıṛ. 3. ıḋ ṗé.	1. maoıḋ, or miṡ. 2. ṫaoı, or tí. 3. ıḋ.	1. ṫaṛ mé. 2. ṫaṛ ṫú. 3. ṫaṛ é.	1. ṫaṛ ıñ, or ṗiñ. 2. ṫaṛ ṗiḃ. 3. ṫaṛ ıaḋ.
	Consuetudinal Present.	1. añ mé. 2. añ ṫú. 3. añ ṗé.	1. añ ṗiñ. 2. añ ṗiḃ. 3. añ ṗıaḋ.		
	Past.	1. aṛ. 2. ıṛ. 3. — ṗé.	1. amaṛ. 2. aḃaṛ. 3. aḋaṛ.	1. aḋ mé. 2. aḋ ṫú. 3. aḋ é.	1. aḋ ṗiñ. 2. aḋ ṗiḃ. 3. aḋ ıaḋ.
	Consuetudinal Past.	1. ıñ. 2. ṫú. 3. aḋ ṗé.	1. maoiṛ, or miṛ. 2. ṫaoı, or tí. 3. ıḃíṛ.	1. ṫaoı, or tí mé. 2. ṫaoı, or tí ṫú. 3. ṫaoı, or tí é.	1. ṫaoı, or tí ṗiñ. 2. ṫaoı, or tí ṗiḃ. 3. ṫaoı, or tí ıaḋ.
	Future.	1. ḃaḋ. 2. ḃıṛ. 3. ḃıḋ ṗé.	1. ḃamaoıḋ, ḃımíḋ. 2. ḃıḋ. 3. ḃıḋ.	1. ḃaṛ mé. 2. ḃaṛ ṫú. 3. ḃaṛ é.	1. ḃaṛ ṗiñ. 2. ḃaṛ ṗiḃ. 3. ḃaṛ ıaḋ.
Conditional Mood		1. ḃiñ. 2. ḃú. 3. ḃıḋ ṗé.	1. ḃamaoıṛ, or ḃımíṛ. 2. ḃíḋ. 3. ḃıḃíṛ.	1. ḃıḋe mé 2. ḃıḋe ṫú. 3. ḃıḋe é.	1. ḃıḋe ṗiñ. 2. ḃıḋe ṗiḃ. 3. ḃıḋe ıaḋ.
Infinitive Mood, aḋ. Participle, aḋ.				Infin. Mood, ṫa or ṫe. Part., ṫa or ṫe.	

§ 2.—Formation of Moods and Tenses.

A.—Active Voice.

The root is the second person singular imperative active; as, buail, *strike.*

The Present is formed by adding im, and the other personal endings, as given in the preceding Table, to the root; as, buailim, *I strike.*

The Consuetudinal Present (Englished by "habitually do;" as, buaileann me, *I habitually strike*) is formed by adding ann to the root. This tense has no synthetic form.

The Past Tense is formed by adding ar to the root, and prefixing do, which always aspirates the initial mutable in the active, but makes no change in the passive voice.

The Consuetudinal Past is formed by adding inn and the other terminations to the root; as, buail, do bhailinn.

The Future is formed by adding fad, and the other terminations given to the root; as, buail, buailfead. Verbs of more than two syllables ending in igim in the first person singular present indicative active make the future in óchad, or ogad; as, foillsigim, foillseóchad, and foillseogad, *to reveal.*

The Conditional Mood is formed by adding finn to the root and the various terminations given in the Table for the persons; as, buail, buailfinn.

The Infinitive is formed (1) by adding adh to the root and prefixing do, which generally aspirates the initial mutable: this is the most usual mode, but it is (2) sometimes like the imperative; as, scrios, infinitive, do scrios, *to destroy.* (3.) Some drop a slender vowel; as, cuir, infinitive, do chur, *to place.* (4.) Those in uig form their infinitive by adding the usual termination adh, only dropping the i; as, beannuig, infinitive, do bheannugadh, *to bless.* Those in ig form it in the usual mode, only inserting a broad vowel after the i, generally u; as, foillsig, infinitive, d'fhoillsiugadh, *to shew.*

These changes, it should be borne in mind, are only euphonic, arising from that oft-repeated rule caol le caol, ꝛc. (5.) Some add c to the root, but O'Donovan says these have a second form; aġair, infinitive, d'aġairc, or aġrad, *to reprove.* (6.) Some add amuin; as, creid, infinitive, do creidfeamuin, *to believe.* (7.) Some add áil; as, admuiġ,* infinitive d'admáil, *to confess.* O'Donovan says: "In all verbal nouns borrowed from the English this termination is used in the corrupt modern Irish; as, boxáil, *to box;* cicáil, *to kick;* rolláil, *to roll;* rmúdáil, *to smooth,*" &c. (8.) Others, am; as déan, infinitive, do déanam, *to do.* (9.) Others, again, acd; as, éird, infinitive, d'éirdeacd, *to listen.* (10.) Some few end in rin; as, feic, d'fheicrin, *to see.* And lastly, some are so irregular that they can be reduced to no rule; as, iarr, d'iarraid, *to ask;* ġlacd, infinitive, do ġlacdad. These last must be learnt by practice, or by consulting the Dictionary.

The Participles are formed from the root in the same way as the infinitive, but require certain particles preceding; for the present, a or aġ, for the past, iar, which eclipses the initial mutable, and ar dí, or le for the future. These are frequently used substantively.

B.—Passive Voice.

In the Passive Voice the analytic mode of forming the persons prevails; there is, therefore, only one terminational ending to be learned for each tense.

The Imperative is formed by adding car to the root. It has a first person singular.

The present indicative is formed by adding the same terminational ending.

There is no separate form for the Consuetudinal Present.

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* *This form is* rare in verbs of this ending, uiġ; they generally *follow (4) in the* formation of their infinitives.

The Past is formed by adding aḋ, and prefixing do, which in this voice makes no change in the initial mutable.

The Consuetudinal Past is formed by adding caoi or cí: when the particle do is prefixed, it does not affect the initial letter.

The Future is formed by adding ar or far to the imperative active.

The Conditional Mood is formed by adding fiḋe to the root.

The Infinitive is formed by prefixing the infinitive of the verb *to be* to the passive participle; as, do beiṫ buailte, *to be struck.*

The Participle is formed by adding ta or te.

The Passive voice may also be formed, as in English, by the various parts of the verb *to be*, and the passive participle; as, tá mé buailte, or táim buailte, *I am struck.*

§ 3.—Aspirations and Eclipses.

In order to account for the various changes in the initials of the verb, we shall here give a list of such particles as aspirate and eclipse.

A.—Those that Aspirate.

1. Ar, *whether?* (compounded of an, *whether*, and ro, sign of the past tense). It is only prefixed to the past tense.

2. Do and ro signs of the past tense.

3. Gur, *that* (compounded of go, *that;* and ro, sign of the past). It is never used except with the past tense. O'Donovan states an exception "in its union with the assertive verb ir or ab; as, gurab é, *that it is he;*" but this may be analyzed go ro baḋ é, and therefore be no exception at all.

4. Má, *if;* prefixed to the indicative mood.

5. Mar, *as, like as.*

6. Náċar, *which not* (compounded of náċ, that not,

and ro, sign of the past); prefixed to the past. It is generally contracted into nár.

7. Ní, *not;* prefixed to the present and future.

8. Níor, *not* (compounded of ní, the preceding particle, and ro); prefixed to the past.

B.—Those that Eclipse.

1. An, *whether?*

2. Go, *that,*

3. Dá, *if;* prefixed to the past tense, and also sign of the Conditional Mood.

4. Iar, *after;* only prefixed to the past participle.

5. Mar a, *where, in which;* as, mar a n-dúbairt, *where he said.*

6. Muna, *unless.*

7. Nách, *which not.* In the past tense this is compounded with ro, and becomes nár, nách ar; it then aspirates, the aspiration arising, not from nách, but ro. —*Vid.* A, 6.

"When the relative a, *who,* is preceded by a preposition expressed or understood, the initial consonant of the verb which immediately follows it will be eclipsed, if of the class which admits of eclipsis; and if the initial of the verb be a vowel, it will have n prefixed; as, ó a d-táinig, *from whom came;* ó a n-eiriġeann, *from which rises;* but if the particle ro, or an abbreviation of it, follows the relative a, then the initial consonant of the verb immediately following it will be under the influence of this particle, and suffer aspiration instead of eclipsis; as, Adam ór ṙárarar, i. e. Adam ó a ro ṙárarar, *Adam from whom we have sprung.*"—*O'Donovan.*

§ 4.—Of the Regular Verb.

The learner having made himself thoroughly acquainted with the Table of Personal Endings, and the rules for the formation of the various moods and tenses, may now, without more assistance, proceed to the regular verb. We accordingly give a synoptical Table of it here:—

TABLE OF THE REGULAR VERB buail, to strike.

		Active Voice.		Passive Voice.	
		Singular.	Plural.	Singular.	Plural.
Imperative Mood.		1. . . . . 2. buail. 3. buaileaḋ ṕé.	1. buailimíd. 2. buailiḋ. 3. buailiḋíd.	1. buailtear mé. 2. buailtear ṫú. 3. buailtear é.	1. buailtear ṁíd. 2. buailtear ṡíb. 3. buailtear iad.
Indicative Mood.	Present Tense.	1. buailim. 2. buailir. 3. buailiḋ ṕé.	1. buailimíd. 2. buailtí. 3. buailiḋ.	1. buailtear mé. 2. buailtear ṫú. 3. buailtear é.	1. buailtear ṁíd. 2. buailtear ṡíb. 3. buailtear iad
	Consuetudinal Present.	1. buaileann mé. 2. buaileann ṫú. 3. buaileann ṕé.	1. buaileann ṁíd. 2. buaileann ṡíb. 3. buaileann ṡiad.		
	Past.	1. ḋo ḃuaileas. 2. ḋo ḃuailis. 3 ḋo ḃuail ṕé.	1. ḋo ḃuaileamar. 2. ḋo ḃuaileaḃar. 3. ḋo ḃuaileaḃar.	1. ḋo buaileaḋ mé. 2. ḋo buaileaḋ ṫú. 3. ḋo buaileaḋ é.	1. ḋo buaileaḋ ṁíd. 2. ḋo buaileaḋ ṡíb. 3. ḋo buaileaḋ iad.
	Consuetudinal Past.	1. ḋo ḃuailiṁ. 2. ḋo ḃuailéeá. 3. ḋo ḃuaileaḋ ṕé.	1. ḋo ḃuailimíd. 2. ḋo ḃuailtí. 3. ḋo ḃuailiḋíd.	1. ḋo buailtí mé. 2. ḋo buailtí ṫú. 3. ḋo buailtí é.	1. ḋo buailtí ṁíd. 2. ḋo buailtí ṡíb. 3. ḋo buailtí iad.
	Future.	1. buailfeaḋ. 2. buailfir. 3. buailfiḋ ṕé.	1. buailfimíd. 2. buailfiḋ. 3. buailfiḋ.	1. buailfear mé. 2. buailfear ṫú 3. buailfear é.	1. buailfear ṁíd. 2. buailfear ṡíb. 3. buailfear iad.
Conditional Mood.		1. ḃuailfiṁ. 2. ḃuailfeá. 3. ḃuailfeaḋ ṕé.	1. ḃuailfimíd. 2. ḃuailfiḋ. 3. ḃuailfiḋíd.	1. buailfiḋe mé. 2. buailfiḋe ṫu. 3. buailfiḋe é.	1. buailfiḋe ṁíd. 2. buailfiḋe ṡíb. 3. buailfiḋe iad.
Infinitive Mood, ḋo ḃualaḋ. Participle, aġ bualaḋ.				Infin. a ḃeiṫ buailte. Part. buailte.	

TABLE OF THE VERB bí, *to be.*

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	Plural.
1. . . .	1. bímíd.
2. bí.	2. bídíd.
3. bíodh, or bídeadh ré.	3. bídís.

Indicative Mood.

Present Tense.

General Form.

Singular.	Plural.
1. táim.	1. támaoid
2. táir.	2. tátaoi.
3. tá ré.	3. táid.

Present Tense.

Negative and Interrogative Form. (See § 3.)

Singular.	Plural.
. bruilim.	1. bruilmid.

Indicative Mood—*continued.*

Tenses.	General Form. Singular.	General Form. Plural.	Negative and Interrogative Form. (See § 3). Singular.	Negative and Interrogative Form. (See § 3). Plural.
Consuetudinal Present.	1. bídim. 2. bídir. 3. bídeann, or bíonn re.	1. bímid. 2. bídí. 3. bíd.	1. bídim.* 2. bídir. 3. bídeann ré.	1. bímid. 2. bídí. 3. bíd.
Past.	1. do bídeas. 2. do bídir. 3. do bí ré.	1. do bíomar. 2. do bíobar. 3. do bíodar.	1. rabas. 2. rabair. 3. raib ré.	1. rabamar. 2. rababar. 3. rabadar.
Consuetudinal Past.	1. do bídinn. 3. do bídeá. 2. do bídeadh ré, or bíodh ré.	1. do bímis. 2. do bídí. 3. do bídis.	Conditional Mood.	
Future.	1. beidheadh, or biadh. 2. biair, or beidhir. 3. biaidh ré, or beidh ré.	1. beidhmis, or biadhmaoid. 2. beidhidh, or biadhaidh. 3. biaidh, or beidhid.	Singular. 1. beidhinn. 2. beidheá. 3. beidheadh ré.	Plural. 1. beidhimis. 2. beidhidh. 3. beidhis.

Infinitive Mood. | Participle.

CHAPTER VI.

Of the Irregular Verbs.

There are fourteen irregular* verbs, viz.:—1. bí, the substantive verb *to be.* 2. Is or ar, the assertive verb *it is.* 3. Abair, *to say.* 4. Beir, *to bear.* 5. Feic, *to see.* 6. Cluin, *to hear.* 7. Déan, *to do.* 8. Faigh, *to find.* 9. Gním, *to do.* 10. Ith, *to eat.* 11. Rig, *to reach.* 12. Tabair, *to give.* 13. Tar, *to come.* 14. Téid or té, *to go.*

§ 1.—The Substantive Verb, bí, *to be.*

The conjugation of this verb is given opposite. Besides tá im there is another usual form of the present tense indicative, viz., atáim, atáir, &c.

The negative and interrogative form nabar may be regarded as a contracted form for no bíodar.

§ 2.—The Assertive or Impersonal Verb is or ar, *it is.*

This is the simplest verb in the language; it corresponds with the logical copula, and therefore may fairly be called, with O'Donovan, "*the assertive verb.*" For the sake of euphony, it takes the short forms of the personal pronouns é, iad, &c.

The following is all that is used of this verb in the spoken language:—

Present, is or ar, *it is.*
Past, bad or ba, *it was.*
Future, bud, *it will be.*

The form ab occurs with the particles do, go, gur, &c., in a past and present signification, and also with evident propriety in some interrogatory sentences; as, do'b álum an bean sí, *she was a beautiful woman;* dei-

* Irregular verbs in the Irish language may more properly be called merely defective verbs; some of whose tenses are not in use, but are formed from obselete verbs. Their terminations are the same as those of the regular verb.

ṗɪm ɡuṗab é, *I say it is*, or *was*, as the case may ab é ṗo an ṗeaṗ, *is this the man?*

§ 3.—Ꝺbaiṗ, *to say.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	abṗamaoiṗ, abṗama abṗam.
abaiṗ.	abṗaiḋ.
abṗaḋ ṗé.	abṗaiḋṗ.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋeiṗim, or abṗam.	ḋeiṗimíḋ, or abṗama abṗam.
ḋeiṗiṗ, or abṗaiṗ.	ḋeiṗċíḋ, or abṗaiḋ.
ḋeiṗ ṗé, or abṗaḋ ṗé.	ḋeiṗiḋ, or abṗaiḋ.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

ḋeiṗeann mé, cú, ṗé, ɾc.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋuḃṗaṗ.	ḋuḃṗamaṗ.
ḋuḃṗaiṗ.	ḋuḃṗaḋaṗ.
ḋuḃaiṗc ṗé.	ḋuḃṗaḋaṗ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋeiṗiṅ.	ḋeiṗimíṗ.
ḋeiṗċeá.	ḋeiṗċíḋ.
ḋeiṗeaḋ ṗé.	ḋeiṗiḋṗ.

FUTURE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋéaṗṗaḋ.	ḋéaṗṗamaoiḋ.
ḋéaṗṗaiṗ.	ḋéaṗṗaiḋ.
ḋéaṗṗaiḋ ṗé.	ḋéaṗṗaiḋ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Pural.*
béarpaiñ.	béarpamaoir.
béarpá.	béarpaíð.
béarpað pé.	béarpaiðír.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

do rádh.

PARTICIPLE.

ag rádh.

PASSIVE VOICE.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

abairtear mé, rc.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

beirtear, or abairtear mé, tú, rc.

PAST.

duðradh mé, rc.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

beirtí mé, rc.

FUTURE.

béarpar mé, rc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

béarpaíde mé, rc.

INFINITIVE.

do beit ráidhte.

PASSIVE PARTICIPLE.

ráidhte.

Remarks.

The past tense, active voice, is not aspirated except after nı́, *not;* nor does it take the particles do or no before it, as past tenses generally do. O'Donovan supposes it to be compounded of the particle ad, and the old verb beirim, *I say.* It may be a contraction of do beireap, from beirim, into dobrap, and that by an easy change into dubrap.

---

§ 4.—beir, *to bear.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	beirmı́r.
beir.	beirı́d.
beireadh ré.	beiridı́r.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
beirim.	beirimı́d.
beirir.	beirthı́.
beirid ré.	beirid.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

beireann mé, &c.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
rugar.	rugamar.
rugair.	rugadar.
rug ré.	rugadar.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
beirinn.	beirimíd.
beirtheá.	beirtí.
beireadh sé.	beiridís.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
béarfad.	béarfamaoid.
béarfair.	béarfaidh.
béarfaidh sé.	béarfaid.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
béarfainn.	béarfamaois.
béarfá.	béarfaidh.
béarfadh sé.	béarfaidís.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

do bheirt.

PARTICIPLE.

ag bheirt.

PASSIVE VOICE.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

beirtear mé, tú, sé.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

beirtear mé, sé.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

beirtí mé, tú, sé.

FUTURE TENSE.

béaṗṗaṗ mé, ṫú, ɾc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

ḃéaṗṗaíḋe mé, ɾc.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

ḋo ḃeiṫ beiṗṫe.

PASSIVE PARTICIPLE.

beiṗṫe.

---

§ 5.—Ċiḋim, *to see.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ċíḋim, or ċím.	ċíḋmíḋ, or címíḋ.
ċíḋiṗ, or ċíṗ.	ċíḋéí, or ċíéí.
ċíḋ ṗé, or ċí ṗé.	ċíḋiḋ, or ċíḋ.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

ċiḋeaṅ mé ṫú, ɾc.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ċoṅaṗcaṗ, coṅcaṗ.	ċoncamaṗ, coṅcamaṗ.
ċoṅaṗcaiṗ, coṅcaiṗ.	ċoncaḋaṗ, coṅcaḋaṗ
ċoṅaiṗe ṗe, coṅaic ṗé.	concaḋaṗ, coṅcaḋaṗ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ċíḋiṅ.	ċíḋmíṗ.
ċíḋéeá.	ċíḋéíḋ.
ċíḋeaḋ ṗé.	ċíḋḋíṗ.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ó|ŏbeaŏ.	ó|ŏimíŏ.
ó|ŏiṗ.	ó|ŏiċíŏ.
ó|ŏiŏ ṗé.	ó|ŏiŏ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

ó|ŏiñ, có|ŏeá, ɔc.

PASSIVE VOICE.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

ó|ŏceaṗ, mé, ċú, ɔc.

PAST TENSE.

coñaṗcaŏ, or coñcaŏ, mé, ċú, ɔc.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

ċiŏċí mé, ɔc.

FUTURE TENSE.

ciŏbeaṗ mé, ɔc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

ċiŏṗiŏe mé, ɔc.

REMARKS.

This verb wants the imperative and infinitive moods, and participle active and passive, which are supplied by ṗaic, which ought not to be classed among the irregular verbs, as it goes through all its moods and tenses regularly; it is not unlikely that this whole verb was originally aṁaṗcaim, and in process of time the aṁaṗ was dropped and the verb contracted into ó|ím. O'Donovan says it is "pronounced ɔ|ím in the North, and in parts of Meath, and is sometimes so written by local writers."

The past tense coñaiṗc is evidently taken from aṁaṗc, or ŏeaṗc.

The present and future tenses of this verb have the *peculiarity of* being aspirated like the past.

§ 6.—Cluin, *to hear*.

This verb is regular, except in the past tense, and in the infinitive mood, and participle.

PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ċualaṙ.	ċualamaṙ.
ċualaiṙ.	ċualaḃaṙ.
ċualaiḋ ṙé.	ċualaḋaṙ.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

ḋo, or a ċloiṙtin.

PARTICIPLE.

aᵹ cloiṙtin.

---

§ 7.—Ḋéan, *to do*.

ACTIVE VOICE.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	ḋéanamaoiṙ, ḋéanam aoiḃ and ḋéanam.
ḋéan.	ḋéanaḟḋ.
ḋéanaḋ ṙé.	ḋéanaiḃíṙ.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋéanaim.	ḋéaneamaoiḃ.
ḋéanaiṙ.	ḋéanṫaoi.
ḋéanaiḋ ṙé.	ḋéanaiḃ.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

ḋéanaṁ mé, ᒧc.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋeáṗnaṗ, and ḋéanaṗ.	ḋeáṗnamaṗ, and ḋéanamaṗ.
ḋeáṗnaiṗ, and ḋéanaiṗ.	ḋeáṗnaḋaṗ, and ḋéanaḋaṗ.
ḋeáṗnaḋ, and ḋéan ṗé.	ḋeáṗnaḋaṗ, and ḋéanaḋaṗ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋéanaiñ, and ḋeáṗnaiñ.	ḋéanamaoiṗ, and ḋeáṗnamaoiṗ.
ḋéanṫá.	ḋéanṫaoi.
ḋéanaḋ, and ḋeáṗnaḋ ṗé.	ḋéanaiḋíṗ, and ḋéaṗnaiḋíṗ.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋéanṗaḋ.	ḋéanṗamaoiḋ.
ḋéanṗaiṗ.	ḋéanṗaíḋ.
ḋéanṗaiḋ ṗé.	ḋéanṗaiḋ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋéanṗaiñ.	ḋéanṗamaoiṗ.
ḋéanṗá.	ḋéḃnṗaíḋ.
ḋéanṗaḋ ṗé.	ḋéanṗaiḋíṗ.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

ḋo ḋéanaṁ, or ḋo ḋéanaḋ.

PARTICIPLE.

aᵹ ḋéanaṁ, or aᵹ ḋéanaḋ.

PASSIVE VOICE.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

ḋéanṫaṗ mé, ɾc.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

ḋéanṫaṗ mḟ, ṫú, ɾc.

PAST TENSE.

Déanaḋ, and Dearnaḋ mé, &c.

FUTURE TENSE.

Déanfaḋ mé, &c.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Déanfaiḋe mé, &c.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

Do Deiċ Déanta.

PASSIVE PARTICIPLE.

Déanta.

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§ 8.—Faġ, *to find.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	Faġmaoiḟ, or Faġmaoiḋ.
Faġ.	Faġaiḋ.
Faġaḋ ſé.	Faġaiḋſiḟ.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Faġaim.	Fáġmaoiḋ.
Faġaiḟ.	Faġċaſḋ.
Faġaiḋ ſé.	Faġaiḋ.

Or,

Singular.	*Plural.*
ġeiḃim.	ġeiḃimſiḋ.
ġeiḃiḟ.	ġeiḃéſiḋ.
ġeiḃ ſé.	ġeiḃiḋ.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ƿuaɲaɾ.	ƿuaɲamaɾ.
ƿuaɲaiɾ.	ƿuaɲaḃaɾ.
ƿuaiɾ ɾé.	ƿuaɲaḃaɾ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ᵹeiḋiñ.	ᵹeiḋimíɾ.
ᵹeiḋċeá.	ᵹeiḋċíḋ.
ᵹeiḋeaḋ ɾé.	ᵹeiḋiḋíɾ.

And,

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṗaᵹaiñ.	ṗaᵹamaoiɾ.
ṗaᵹċá.	ṗaᵹċaíḋ.
ṗaᵹaḋ ɾé.	ṗaᵹaiḋíɾ.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ᵹeaḃaḋ or ᵹeoḃaḋ.	ᵹéaḃamaoiḋ, or ᵹeobamaoiḋ.
ᵹéaḃaiɾ, or ᵹeoḃaiɾ.	ᵹéaḃċaíḋ, or ᵹeoḃċaíḋ.
ᵹéaḃaiḋ, or ᵹeoḃaiḋ ɾé.	ᵹéaḃaiḋ, or ᵹeoḃaiḋ.

INTERROGATIVE AND NEGATIVE FUTURE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḃɾuiᵹeaḋ.	ḃɾuiᵹeamaoiḋ.
ḃɾuiᵹiɾ.	ḃɾuiᵹċaíḋ.
ḃɾuiᵹeaḋ ɾé.	ḃɾuiᵹiḋ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ᵹeoḃaiñ, or ᵹéaḃaiñ.	ᵹeoḃamaoiɾ, or ᵹéaḃamaoiɾ.
ᵹeoḃċá, ɾc.	ᵹeoḃċaíḋ, ɾc.
ᵹeoḃaḋ ɾé, ɾc.	ᵹeoḃaiḋíɾ, ɾc.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

ᴅ'ṗáᵹail.

PARTICIPLE.

aᵹ ṗáᵹail.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Imperative Mood.

ꝑaǧ͛ċaꝑ mé, ċú, ɾc.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

ꝑaǧ͛ċaꝑ mé, ċú, ɾc.

PAST TENSE.

ꝑuaꝑaḋ, or ꝑꝛíċ mé, ċú, ɾc.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

ǧeıḃ͛ċí, or ꝑuıǧ͛ċí mé, ċú, ɾc.

Conditional Mood.

ǧeoḃ͛ċaıḃe mé, ɾc.

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§ 9.—Ꝛním, *to do.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Ꝛnímˇ.	Ꝛnímíḋ.
Ꝛníꝑ.	Ꝛnícíḋ.
Ꝛníḋ ꝑé.	Ꝛníḋ.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
Ꝛníḃeaꝑ, or ꝑıǧneaꝑ.	Ꝛníoḃmaꝑ, or ꝑıǧneamaꝑ.
Ꝛníḃıꝑ, or ꝑıǧnıꝑ.	Ꝛníoḃḃaꝑ, or ꝑıǧneaḃaꝑ.
Ꝛníḋ ꝑé, or ꝑıǧne ꝑé, and *ꝑıñ ꝑé.*	Ꝛníoḃḃaꝑ, or ꝑıǧneaḃaꝑ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
gnídiñ.	gnídimíd.
gnídeá.	gnídeí.
gnídeadh dé.	gnídidír.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

gnitear mé, &c.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

gnítí mé, &c.

Remarks.

This verb wants the other tenses, or they are formed from déan. Rigneadh in the past tense is evidently a contraction of do, sign of the past, and gnídeadh.

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§ 10.—Ith, *to eat.*

This verb is regular, except in the future tense and Conditional Mood.

FUTURE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ithfead.	ithfamaoid.
ithfair.	ithfaidh.
ithfaidh dé.	ithfaid.

Conditional Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ithfainn.	ithfaimaois.
ithfá.	ithfaidh.
ithfadh dé.	ithfaidís.

Infinitive Mood.

d'ith.

Remarks.

The regular Past is ᴅ' ıċeaṛ; there is, however, an old form ᴅuaṛ, which may be contracted for ᴅ'ıċeaṛ, ᴅıċeaṛ, ᴅeaṛ, ᴅuaṛ; this is seldom used in the spoken language, but is in the New Testament—ᴅuaıᵭ euᴅ ᴅo ᵭıǧeṛı ṛuaṛ mé—*the zeal of thy house has eaten me up*—John, ii. 17; and ᴄaṛéıṛ a ǧcuiṁealᴅa eıᴅıṛ a lámaıᵭ ᵭóıᵭ, ᴅuaᴅaṛ ıaᴅ, *after rubbing them between their hands, they ate them*.—Luke, vi. 1.

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§ 11.—Rıǧ, *to reach.*

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	ṛıǧmíṛ.
ṛıǧ.	ṛıǧíᵭ.
ṛıǧeaᵭ ṛé.	ṛıǧıᴅíṛ.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṛıǧım.	ṛıǧmíᴅ.
ṛıǧıṛ.	ṛıǧéı.
ṛıǧ ṛé.	ṛıǧıᴅ.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural*
ṛıǧıṁ.	ṛıǧmíṛ.
ṛıǧċeᵭ.	ṛıǧéíᵭ.
ṛıǧeaᵭ ṛé.	ṛıǧᴅíṛ.

FUTURE TENSE.

ṛıǧṛeaᴅ.

Conditional Mood.

ṛıǧṛıṁ.

Infinitive Mood.

ᴅo ṛoᴅᴄaın.

§ 12.—Tabair, *to give.*

ACTIVE VOICE.

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	tabramaoir.
tabair.	tabraidh.
tabrad fé.	tabraidhfir.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

beirim, tugaim, and tabraim.

CONSUETUDINAL PRESENT.

beireann mé, tugann mé, and tabrann mé.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
thug.	thugamar.
thugair.	thugabar.
thug fé.	thugadar.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

beirinn, and thugainn.

FUTURE.

béarfad, and tabarfad, &c.

Conditional Mood.

béarfainn, tabarfainn, and tiubrainn.

Infinitive Mood.

do tabairt.

Participle.

ag tabairt.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Imperative Mood.

beirtéar, tugtar, and tabairtear mé, &c.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

beirtéar mé, and tugtar mé, &c.

PAST TENSE.

tugadh mé, &c.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

beirtídhe, or tugtaídhe mé, &c.

FUTURE.

béarfar, and tabharfar mé, &c.

Conditional Mood.

béarfaidhe, and tabharfaidhe mé, &c.

Passive Participle.

tugtha, and tabairtha.

Remarks.

This verb is made up of three defective verbs—beir, tug, and tabair. The tenses which are used of each may be perceived by reading the verb as given above. The past tense is that of tug only. There is a peculiarity in the use of beirim, the present; viz. that it takes the particle do before it, sometimes expressed and *sometimes* understood, and then the b is aspirated as in *the past tense.*

§ 13.—Tar, *to come.*

Imperative Mood.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	tigim, or tagamaoir.
tar, tair, or tig.	tigid.
tigeadh, or tagadh fé.	tigidir, or tagaidir.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
tigim.	tigmid, or tigimid.
tigir.	tigtid.
tig fé.	tigid.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
thángar.	thángamar.
thángair.	thángadar.
thámig fé.	thángadar.

Or,

Singular.	*Plural*
ránga[r].*	ránga[m]ar.
ránga[i]r.	ránga[d]ar.
ránai[g], or rámi[g] fé.	ránga[d]ar.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
tigidh.	tigimir.
tigtheá.	tigtid.
tigeadh fé.	tigidir.

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* Some grammarians make this the past of rig; but it is evidently a contraction for ro thangar; its general meaning in the third person is, *it came to pass; they happened:* rangair, you happened to be, &c.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
tiocfaḋ.	tiocfamaoiḋ, or tiocfam.
tiocfair.	tiocfaiḋ.
tiocfaiḋ fé.	tiocfaiḋ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
tiocfainn.	tiocfamaoir.
tiocfá.	tiocfaiḋ.
tiocfaḋ fé.	tiocfaiḋir.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

do teaḋt.

PARTICIPLE.

aġ teaḋt.

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§ 14.—Téiḋ, or té, *to go.*

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
. . . .	téiḋmíd, or téimíd.
téiḋ.	téiḋíḋ.
téiḋeaḋ fé.	téiḋidir.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
téiḋim.	téiḋmíd, or téimíd.
téiḋir.	téiḋéiḋ, or téiṫíḋ.
téiḋ fé.	téiḋid, or téid.

PAST TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ḋuaḋar.	ḋuaḋmar.
ḋuaḋair.	ḋuaḋḃar.
ḋuaid fé.	ḋuaḋḃar.

CONSUETUDINAL PAST.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṫéiḋiñ.	ṫéiḋmíṙ.
ṫéiḋṫeá.	ṫéiḋṫí.
ṫéiḋeaḋ ṙé.	ṫéiḋḋíṙ.

FUTURE TENSE.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṗaóṙaḋ.	ṗaóṙamaoiḋ.
ṗaóṙaiṗ.	ṗaóṙaíḋ.
ṗaóṙaiḋ ṙé.	ṗaóṙaiḋ.

Or, ṗaóaḋ, ṗaóaiṗ, ṗaóaiḋ ṙé, omitting the ṙ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Singular.	*Plural.*
ṗaóṙaiñ.	ṗaóṙamaoiṙ.
ṗaóṙá.	ṗaóṙaíḋ.
ṗaóṙaḋ ṙé.	ṗaóṙaiḋíṙ.

INFINITIVE MOOD.

ḋo ḋul.

PARTICIPLE.

aġ ḋul.

REMARKS.

The past tense is often ḋeaóaṙ. This form is used after ni, and the interrogative a, and with ġo, &c.

"Haliday, the Rev. Paul O'Brien, and others, make imṫiġ a form of the imperative mood of this verb; but this cannot be considered as correct; as, imṫiġim, which is a regular verb, signifies *I depart*, not *I go*. In some parts of Munster the imperative of ṫéiḋim, *I go*, is frequently made eiṙiġ (and sometimes, corruptly, ṫeiṙiġ); but this must be deemed an anomaly, as it is properly the imperative of eiṙiġim, *I arise*."—*O'Donovan.*

§ 15.—Defective Verbs.

The following defective verbs are used in the spoken language:—

ᾶιρ ρέ, *said he.*
ᵭαρ ḷιοm, *methinks;* ᵭαρ leιρ ρéιn, *he himself thinks;* ᵭαρ leo, *they think.*
ᵭlıʒ́ċeαρ, *it is allowed.*
ρeαᵭαρ, *I know;* only used negatively and interrogatively, and in the present tense; nı́ ρeαᵭαρ mé, *I do not know;* n'ρeαᵭαıρ ρé, n'ρeαᵭραımıρ, &c.

CHAPTER VII.

Particles.

§ 1.—Adverbs.

There are few simple adverbs in the Irish language. Adverbial expressions are formed by prefixing ᵹo to adjectives; as, maıċ, *good;* ᵹo maıċ, *well;* these are compared in the same way as the adjectives themselves. Adverbial expressions are also formed by the combination of prepositions and nouns, or pronouns; as, αρ ᵹcúl, *backwards,* compounded of αρ, *upon;* and cúl, *the back.*

The following particles are only used in composition:—

A.—*Negative Particles.*

αṁ	and ᵭeóın, *will.*	αṁᵭeoın, *unwillingness.*
αn	„ ᵭrάċ, *time.*	anᵭrάċ, *improper time.*
ᵭo	„ ᵭeuραċ, *well-behaved.*	ᵭoıᵭeuραċ, *ill-behaved.*
ᵭí	„ cρeıᵭeαṁ, *belief.*	ᵭíċρeıᵭeαṁ, *unbelief.*
ᵭρoċ	„ blαρ, *taste.*	ᵭρoċᵭlαρ, *a bad taste.*
éa* or éı	„ cóıρ, *righteousness.*	éaᵹcóıρ, *unrighteousness.*
eαρ	„ cαραıᵭ, *a friend.*	eαρcαραıᵭ, *an enemy.*
mí	„ cıall, *sense.*	mícıall, *folly.*
neαṁ	„ clαon, *partial.*	neαṁċlαon, *impartial.*

* *Ea generally* eclipses the initial mutable of the noun with which *it is compounded;* as, eaᵭcρóαıρe, cruelty.

B.—*Intensitive Particles.*

aḋ as molaḋ, *praise.*	aḋṁolaḋ, *excessive praise.*
an ,, mór, *great.*	anṁór, *very great.*
biṫ ,, beo, *living.*	biṫḋeo, *everliving, eternal.*
ḋo ,, bṗón, *grief.*	ḋoḃṗón, *great grief.*
il ,, ġné, *a kind.*	ilġnéiṫeaḋ, *of many kinds, manifold.*
ɪm ,, lán, *full.*	ɪomlán, *very full.*
oll ,, ġlór, *talk.*	ollġlór, *great talk, bombast.*
uṗ ,, eaṗḃuiḋ, *want.*	uɪṗeaṗḃuiḋ, *great want, poverty.*

C.—*Particles of Repetition, &c.*

aɪṗ, or eɪṗ, as ío, *a payment.*	aɪṗɪoc, *a repayment.*
aṫ ,, blaṗ, *a savour.*	aṫḃlaṗ, *an after savour.*
cóṁ, *equal*, as ṫṗom, *weight.*	cóṁṫṗom, *equal weight.*
ḋeaġ, or ḋeiġ, *good*, as blaṗ, *taste.*	ḋeaġḃlaṗ, *a good taste.*
ín, *fit*, as ḋéanṫa, *done.*	ínḋéanṫa, *fit to be done.*
ṗo, *easy*, as ḋéanṫa, *done.*	ṗoiḋéanṫa, *easy to be done.*

Let the learner bear in mind the rule caol le caol, ɾc. Thus, aṁ is aiṁ in aiṁḋeoin; ḋo is ḋoi in ḋoiḋeuṗac; ɪmṁ is ɪom in ɪomlán, &c. Several of these particles are obsolete adjectives.

The particles used with verbs have been mentioned previously in c. v. § 3.

§ 2.—Prepositions.

There are many simple prepositions, such as aġ, *at;* aiṗ, *upon;* aṁ, *in*, &c.; and these again, with nouns, form compound prepositions; aġaiḋ, *the face;* anaġaiḋ, *in the face, against*, &c.

A list of those prepositions which aspirate and eclipse the initials of those nouns to which they are joined will be found in Part III. c. v. § 2.

§ 3.—Conjunctions.

Conjunctions are also simple and compound: simple, as, ġo, *that;* aġuṗ, *and;* compound, those made up of

different parts of speech, forming a sort of conjunctional phrase, ᴅo ᴅ'ıᵹ, *because;* uıme ɾın, *therefore.*

For the influence of certain conjunctions upon the initials of those words that follow that, *vid.* c. v. § 3.

§ 4.—Interjections.

Neilson remarks that "no language abounds more in passionate interjections than the Irish; but it would be vain and useless to attempt an enumeration of them." The following are a few of the more usual:—

a! *O!*	maıɾᵹ! *woe to!*
aɾ ƈɾuaᵹ! *woe!*	monuaɾ! *alas!*
ɾoɾaoɾ! *alas!*	ceamṁeaɾ! *O happy.*
uȯ! *oh!*	éıɾƈ! *hush!*

PART III.

SYNTAX.

CHAPTER I.

The Article and Noun.

§ 1.—The Article.

The Article is placed before the noun, except when an adjective intervenes, and agrees with it in Gender, Number, and Case.

The influence of the article on the initials of nouns has been given in Part II. chap. i.

When the article is preceded by a particle ending in a vowel, a contraction takes place, and the a of the article is elided; e. g. ó an, *from the*, contracted into ón.

When the article follows ann, *in*, for euphony, r is inserted between the two; e. g. annran uair, *in the hour*. This is often written and pronounced ran, and ra.

The article is used in Irish in some instances, where in English it would be omitted; viz.—(*a*) Before a noun which would take, at the same time, a demonstrative pronoun; (*b*) Before a noun preceded by its adjective and the assertive verb is; (*c*) Before the names of certain places; as, rig na hEirean, &c.

When one noun governs another in the genitive, the article is used before the genitive case, and not with the governing noun, as in English the sense would require; as, mac an duine, *the son of man;* but if a possessive pronoun be used with the governed noun, or if the governed noun be such a proper noun as would not take the article, the article is omitted; as, obair a láime, *the work of his hand;* Mac Dé, *the Son of God*. This is also the idiom in Hebrew.

The Irish language has no article corresponding to the

English *a* or *an;* but this is expressed either by the absence of the article, or in the manner mentioned in c. iii. § 2.

§ 2.—The Noun.

The same concords of Noun, Adjective, Pronoun, and Verb, as occur in other languages, occur also in Irish.

One noun governs another in the genitive, as in other languages; the latter noun, sometimes with the former, makes a compound expression; as, fear corrdhin, *a man of a hook*, i. e. a reaper.

"When, in the absence of the article, the latter of two substantives in the genitive case is the proper name of a man, woman, or place, its initial is aspirated; as, ó aimsir Phádhruig, *from the time of St. Patrick.*"—*O'Donovan.*

CHAPTER II.

Adjectives.

§ 1.—The Adjective generally.

The aspiration of adjectives when joined to nouns has been treated of in Part II. chap. iii. § 5.

Adjectives are placed after the nouns to which they belong, except in the case of emphasis or monosyllabic adjectives, which are placed before their nouns, and undergo no inflexion; and in the case of numerals, *vid.* § 2; as, fear gealt, *a white man;* dearg lasair, *red flame.* The adjective also precedes the noun when joined to the assertive verb is; as, is fuar an lá é, *it is a cold day.*

When the adjective is the predicate of a sentence, and the noun is the subject, the adjective is not inflected; as tá an bean geanamhuil, *the woman is beautiful.*

When the adjective is connected with the verb in *meaning, it is* not inflected; as, do rinne mé an sgian geur, *I made the knife sharp.*

"When an adjective is used to describe the quality of two nouns, it agrees with the one next to it; as, ƿeaƿ aġuƿ bean ṁaiḋ, *a good man and woman;* bean ⁊ ƿeaƿ maiḋ."—*O'Donovan.*

Adjectives which signify profit, nearness to, fitness, and their opposites, take the Prepositional Case with ḋo; as, ıƿ olc ḋom, *it is bad for me;* ıƿ maiḋ ḋom, *it is good for me.*

Adjectives which signify fulness, and those which signify part of anything, take ḋe, *of,* with the article, before the noun, which will be in the Prepositional Case; as, ƿeaƿ ḋona* ḋaoiṁḃ, *one of the men;* l̇án ḋ'uiƿġe, *full of water.*

Adjectives which signify likeness, or an emotion of the mind, take le with the prepositional case; as, ıƿ coƿṁuil an ƿeaƿ le ƿiġeaḋóiƿ, *the man is like a weaver.*

The comparative degree takes ná, or no, *than,* before the following noun: as, aƿ mó ƿól ná ƿeaḋaƿ, *Paul is greater than Peter.*

"The superlative degree does not require a genitive case plural after it, as in Latin, for the genitive case in Irish, as in English, always denotes possession, and nothing more, and therefore could not be applied, like the genitive case plural in Latin, after nouns partitive, or the superlative degree; but it generally takes after it the preposition ḋo, or, more correctly, ḋe."—*O'Donovan.*

§ 2.—Numerals.

Numeral adjectives precede their substantives; as, aon ƿeaƿ, *one man.*

The Cardinals aon and ḋá aspirate the initial mutable of the nouns to which they are prefixed.

The Cardinals ƿeaċ, oċ, naoı, ḋeiċ, eclipse the initial mutable.

The cardinals ḋá, *two;* ƿiċe, *twenty,* and all the mul-

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* So ḋe na is commonly written; ḋe an, ḋon, &c.

tiple of tens; as, deic ar fichid, *thirty;* ceud, *a hundred;* mile, *a thousand,* &c., take the noun in the singular number. In Hebrew this construction also occurs, for there the multiples of ten, from 20 to 90, when they precede generally take the noun in the singular number.

CHAPTER III.

The Pronoun.

§ 1.—Personal Pronouns.

Personal Pronouns, as in other languages, agree in Number, Gender, and Person, with their antecedents.

If a sentence be the antecedent, the pronoun will be the third person singular masculine; but if a noun of multitude be the antecedent, the pronoun will be the third person plural.

If two or more persons or things be mentioned, the pronoun will agree with the first person rather than the second, and with the second rather than the third—buail fé tú fa agus mise agus bí fin cín.

§ 2.—Possessive Pronouns.

The Possessive Pronouns always precede their nouns; as, mo ceann, *my head.*

Mo, do, and a, *his,* aspirate the initial mutables of their nouns; as, a bean, *his wife;* ár, bur, and a, *their,* eclipse the same (*vid.* Part II. c. i. § 1, note) as, bur mbráthair, *your brother;* and a, *her,* prefixes h to nouns beginning with a vowel; as, a hanam, *her soul;* before nouns beginning with immutable consonants there is no way to distinguish between a, *his, her, their,* except by the context.

The vowel of mo, before another vowel or f, is elided; as, *m'anam, my soul;* m'fheoil, *my flesh.* Do in similar cases is changed into h; as, h'athair, thy father; gene-

rally the o is merely elided, and ḃ sometimes changed into c; as, c'anam, *thy soul.*

The possessive pronouns, when either compounded with or preceded by the preposition aṅ, *in*, expressed or understood, are used with the substantive verb bí* to denote an office or state of being; as, tá sé 'na sagart, *he is a priest*, literally, *he is in his priest's state.*

§ 3.—Relative Pronouns.

The Relative Pronoun a, whether expressed or understood, aspirates the initial mutables of verbs, except when a preposition governing the relative precedes it, and the relative is not the nominative to the verb; in such a case it *eclipses* instead of *aspirating*. The preposition may sometimes be understood.

When the relative a is used to denote the owner or possessor of anything, it takes s; as, an fear ar leis tú, *the man to whom you belong.* Of course, when this is preceded by do (as the o is elided for euphony) it becomes daṅ, more correctly, d'aṅ, so leis, for le áṅ.

Dáṅb, or dáṅab, and leṅb, may be analyzed as the case may be (*vid.* Part II. c. vi. § 2) d'a ṅo ba, *to whom was*, or d' aṅ ab, *to whom is;* bean dáṅb ainm Maire, *a woman whose name was Mary*, or *whose name is*, &c.

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* "The verb substantive táim can never ascribe a predicate to its subject without the aid of the preposition a, i, or aṅ, *in*; as, ta sé 'n-a fear, *he is a man.* Of this there seems no parallel in any other European language. But the assertive verb is always connects the predicate with its subject without the help of a preposition; as, is fear mé, *I am a man.* . . . The two modes of construction represent the idea to the mind in a quite different manner. Thus, tá mé am' fear, and is fear mé, though both mean *I am a man*, have a different signification; for tá mé am' fear, *I am in* MY *man;* i. e. *I am a man*, as distinguished from some other stage, such as childhood, or boyhood; while is fear mé indicates that I am *a man*, as distinguished from a woman, or a coward.—O'Donovan's Irish *Grammar*, p. 379.

The relative always precedes the verb, and, being indeclinable, the context must decide whether it is the agent or the object; as, an ꝑeaꝛ a ḃuaıḃım, *the man whom I strike;* an ꝑeaꝛ a ḃuaıleaꝛ me, *the man who strikes me.*

"The relative is often omitted when it is either *preceded* or *followed* by a vowel or an *aspirated consonant.*" —*Neilson.*

§ 4.—Interrogative Pronouns.

The Interrogative Pronouns always precede the verb or preposition by which they are governed.

§ 5.—Demonstrative Pronouns.

The Demonstrative Pronouns immediately follow the nouns or adjectives with which they may be connected; as, an ḃean ꝑın, *that woman.*

There is one exception to the foregoing:—viz. where the assertive verb ıꝛ is understood; as, ꝑo an ꝑeaꝛ, *this is the man.*

"The pronouns cꝛeuḃ, ꝺoḃé, cıa, &c., are commonly used without interrogation, as demonstratives; as, ꝺá ꝑıoꝛ aꝺam ꝺo ḃé a ḃéaꝛꝑá, *I know what you would say.*"—*Neilson.*

§ 6.—Compound Pronouns.

The Compound Pronouns are used with the verb bí, and with other verbs, in the following manner:—

Aꝺam, means literally, *with me;* when used with bí it serves as the auxiliary verb *to have;* thus, ꝺá aꝺam, *I have;* ꝺá aꝺaḃ, *thou hast;* ꝺá aꝺe, *he has,* &c.

Uaım, used with ꝺá, would mean, *I want,* &c.

A great many idiomatic phrases are made with these compound pronouns, and they serve with bí for a great number of other verbs which the student will easily discover.

CHAPTER IV.

The Verb.

§ 1.—The Verb generally.

The Verb agrees with its nominative in number and person.

Two or more singular nouns joined by a conjunction will take the verb in the singular number; as, ċáinig mise agus tusa, *I and you came.*

If the nominative be a noun of multitude the verb will be in the plural.

The nominative generally follows the verb (part of the sentence may intervene); as, dúbairt an fear, *the man said.* Relative and interrogative pronouns, as before mentioned, precede the verb.

"When the assertive verb is, or the particles an, or nách, which always carry the force of is, and never suffer it to be expressed, are used, the collocation is as follows:—the verb comes first, next the attribute, or predicate, and then the subject; as, is fear mé, *I am a man;* is maith iad, *they are good.* But if the article be expressed before the predicate, then the attribute comes next after the verb; as, is mé an fear, *I am the man.*" —*O'Donovan.*

The pronoun is not used with the synthetic form. —*Vid.* Part II. c. v. § 1.

When the noun precedes the infinitive, it is put in the accusative; when it follows, it is governed in the genitive.

The active participles govern the genitive as nouns do.

The present participle, with the verb bí, expresses the continuance of the action; as, tá mé ag léigeadh mo leabair, *I am reading my book.*

Transitive verbs take their objects in the accusative case.

Verbs of advantage and disadvantage take the object

of the benefit or injury in the prepositional case with do, or similar prepositions.

Verbs of comparing and of taking away also govern the prepositional case of the object of comparison or deprivation, with the preposition ua, or such like.

One verb governs another in the infinitive mood, as in other languages. "When the governed verb is one expressing motion or gesture, which does not govern an accusative, the sign do is never prefixed; as, dubairt sé liom dul go Corcaig, *he told me to go to Cork.*"—*O'Donovan.*

§ 2.—Auxiliary Verbs.

Auxiliary Verbs, as we stated before, are formed by the substantive verb bí, *to be*, with the compound pronouns.

For the distinction between bí and is, *vid.* c. iii. § 2, note.

When is or as follows a word ending in a vowel, the vowel is elided, and s only remains: bad, in the same case, drops the final a, and becomes simply b; e. g. má's for má is, dabs for dás bad.

Bad and buð aspirate the mutable consonants following.

"The auxiliary bí," says Neilson, "with the preposition ann, is used to express existence; as, tá súbáilce ann, *there is a virtue;* bí duine ann, *there was a man.*"

CHAPTER V.

Particles.

§ 1.—Adverbs.

We have necessarily anticipated, in Part II. c. v. § 3, *the changes* which certain adverbs cause on the initial *mutables of* those words to which they belong.

Monosyllabic adverbs are placed before the words to which they belong; as, ꝑó ṁóꝛ, *very great.*

"Compound adverbs, particularly those formed from adjectives, are placed after the nominatives to the verbs which they qualify, but never placed between the auxiliary and the verb as in English; as, ꝺ'eíꝛıꞇ ꝑé ȝo ṁoċ, *he rose early;* ꞇá ꝑé ꝺéanꞇa ȝo ceaꝛꞇ, *it is done properly;* not ꞇá ꝑé ȝo ceaꝛꞇ ꝺéanꞇa."—*O'Donovan.*

Adverbs signifying proximity take the prepositional case generally with ꝺo; as, ꞇá ꝑé anȝáꝛ ꝺoṁ, *he is near me.*

The following adverbs also take the prepositional case:—a ꝺꝛoꝛ, *on this side;* a ꝺꝛaꝺ, *afar off;* amaċ, *out;* amuiċ, *without;* ꞇall, *beyond;* anall, *on this side;* aꝛꞇeaċ, *within;* as, ꝑan a ꝺꝛoꝛ aȝuiñ, *stay on this side with us.*

§ 2.—Prepositions.

The following Prepositions generally aspirate the initial mutable of the nouns they govern:—

ár, *upon.*	ıꝺıꝛ, *between.*
ꝺe, *of.*	maꝛ, *like to.*
ꝺo, *to.*	o, ua, *from.*
ꝑa, ꝑaoı, *under.*	ꞇrí, *through.*
ꝑeaꝺ, *throughout.*	

Ann, *in*, and ıaꝛ, *after*, eclipse the initial mutable.

Le and o, curiously enough, though they do not eclipse, still prefix h to vowels; as, ꝑıȝne mé ꝑın le heaȝla, *I did that through fear.*

The following prepositions govern the genitive case:—

ċum, *to.*	ıoñꝑuıꝺe, *unto.*
ꝺéıꝛ, *after.*	ꝑéıꝛ, *according to.*
ꝑeaꝺ, *throughout.*	ꞇímċıoll, *about.*

Ꝺıꝛ, *between*, sometimes governs the accusative, and all other prepositions govern the regular prepositional case.

§ 3.—Conjunctions.

The Conjunctions agus, *and*, and no or na, *or*, &c., take the same cases and moods after them (unless the sense requires otherwise) as go before them; as, buail ⁊ bris, *strike and break.*

For the influence of some conjunctions upon the initials of the words that follow them, *vid.* Part II. c. v. § 3.

§ 4.—Interjections.

The interjections o and a govern the vocative case, and aspirate the initial mutable of the noun.

Mairg, *wo*, which, as O'Donovan says, is really a noun, always takes the preposition do after it.

THE END.

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